



# HIGHER MATHEMATICS

FOR

STUDENTS OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS





# HIGHER MATHEMATICS

FOR

STUDENTS OF CHEMISTRY AND  
PHYSICS

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PRACTICAL WORK

BY

J. W. MELLOR, D.Sc., F.R.S.

*NEW IMPRESSION*

NEW YORK  
DOVER PUBLICATIONS  
1946

IIA LIB.

“The first thing to be attended to in reading any algebraic treatise is the gaining a perfect understanding of the different processes there exhibited, and of their connection with one another. This cannot be attained by a mere reading of the book, however great the attention which may be given. It is impossible in a mathematical work to fill up every process in the manner in which it must be filled up in the mind of the student before he can be said to have completely mastered it. Many results must be given of which the details are suppressed, such are the additions, multiplications, extractions of square root, etc., with which the investigations abound. These must not be taken in trust by the student, but must be worked by his own pen, which must never be out of his hand, while engaged in any algebraical process.”—DE MORGAN, *On the Study and Difficulties of Mathematics*, 1831.

FIRST AMERICAN EDITION  
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH  
LONGMANS, GREEN AND COMPANY

LITHOGRAPHED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated

to

My Wife



## PREFACE TO THE FOURTH EDITION.

THE fourth edition is materially the same as the third. I have, however, corrected the misprints which have been brought to my notice by a number of students of the book, and made a few verbal alterations and extensions of the text. I am glad to say that a German edition has been published; and to observe that a large number of examples, etc., peculiar to this work and to my *Chemical Statics and Dynamics* have been "absorbed" into current literature.

J. W. M.

THE VILLAS, STOKE-ON-TRENT,

13th December, 1912.

## PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

I AM pleased to find that my attempt to furnish an Introduction to the Mathematical Treatment of the Hypotheses and Measurements employed in scientific work has been so much appreciated by students of Chemistry and Physics. In this edition, the subject-matter has been rewritten, and many parts have been extended in order to meet the growing tendency on the part of physical chemists to describe their ideas in the unequivocal language of mathematics.

J. W. M.

4th July, 1905.



## PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

It is almost impossible to follow the later developments of physical or general chemistry without a working knowledge of higher mathematics. I have found that the regular text-books of mathematics rather perplex than assist the chemical student who seeks a short road to this knowledge, for it is not easy to discover the relation which the pure abstractions of formal mathematics bear to the problems which every day confront the student of Nature's laws, and realize the complementary character of mathematical and physical processes.

During the last five years I have taken note of the chief difficulties met with in the application of the mathematician's  $x$  and  $y$  to physical chemistry, and, as these notes have grown, I have sought to make clear how experimental results lend themselves to mathematical treatment. I have found by trial that it is possible to interest chemical students and to give them a working knowledge of mathematics by manipulating the results of physical or chemical observations.

I should have hesitated to proceed beyond this experimental stage if I had not found at The Owens College a set of students eagerly pursuing work in different branches of physical chemistry, and most of them looking for help



in the discussion of their results. When I told my plan to the Professor of Chemistry he encouraged me to write this book. It has been my aim to carry out his suggestion, so I quote his letter as giving the spirit of the book, which I only wish I could have carried out to the letter.

“THE OWENS COLLEGE,  
“MANCHESTER.

“MY DEAR MELLOR,

“If you will convert your ideas into words and write a book explaining the inwardness of mathematical operations as applied to chemical results, I believe you will confer a benefit on many students of chemistry. We chemists, as a tribe, fight shy of any symbols but our own. I know very well you have the power of winning new results in chemistry and discussing them mathematically. Can you lead us up the high hill by gentle slopes? Talk to us chemically to beguile the way? Dose us, if need be, ‘with learning put lightly, like powder in jam’? If you feel you have it in you to lead the way we will try to follow, and perhaps some of the youngest of us may succeed. Wouldn’t this be a triumph worth working for? Try.

“Yours very truly,

“H. B. DIXON.”

*May, 1902.*

# CONTENTS.

*(The bracketed numbers refer to pages.)*

## CHAPTER I.—THE DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS.

- § 1. On the nature of mathematical reasoning (3); § 2. The differential coefficient (6); § 3. Differentials (10); § 4. Orders of magnitude (10); § 5. Zero and infinity (12); § 6. Limiting values (13); § 7. The differential coefficient of a differential coefficient (17); § 8. Notation (19); § 9. Functions (19); § 10. Proportionality and the variation constant (22); § 11. The laws of indices and logarithms (24); § 12. Differentiation, and its uses (29); § 13. Is differentiation a method of approximation only? (32); § 14. The differentiation of algebraic functions (35); § 15. The gas equations of Boyle and van der Waals (46); § 16. The differentiation of trigonometrical functions (47); § 17. The differentiation of inverse trigonometrical functions. The differentiation of angles (49); § 18. The differentiation of logarithms (51); § 19. The differential coefficient of exponential functions (54); § 20. The "compound interest law" in Nature (56); § 21. Successive differentiation (64); § 22. Partial differentiation (68); § 23. Euler's theorem on homogeneous functions (75); § 24. Successive partial differentiation (76); § 25. Complete or exact differentials (77); § 26. Integrating factors (77); § 27. Illustrations from thermodynamics (79).

## CHAPTER II.—COORDINATE OR ANALYTICAL GEOMETRY.

- § 28. Cartesian coordinates (83); § 29. Graphical representation (85); § 30. Practical illustrations of graphical representation (86); § 31. Properties of straight lines (89); § 32. Curves satisfying conditions (93); § 33. Changing the coordinate axes (96); § 34. The circle and its equation (97); § 35. The parabola and its equation (99); § 36. The ellipse and its equation (100); § 37. The hyperbola and its equation (101); § 38. The tangent to a curve (102); § 39. A study of curves (106); § 40. The rectangular or equilateral hyperbola (109); § 41. Illustrations of hyperbolic curves (110); § 42. Polar coordinates (114); § 43. Spiral curves (116); § 44. Trilinear coordinates and triangular diagrams (118); § 45. Orders of curves (120); § 46. Coordinate geometry in three dimensions.

Geometry in space (121); § 47. Lines in three dimensions (127); § 48. Surfaces and planes (132); § 49. Periodic or harmonic motion (135); § 50. Generalized forces and coordinates (139).

### CHAPTER III.—FUNCTIONS WITH SINGULAR PROPERTIES.

§ 51. Continuous and discontinuous functions (142); § 52. Discontinuity accompanied by "breaks" (143); § 53. The existence of hydrates in solution (145); § 54. The smoothing of curves (148); § 55. Discontinuity accompanied by change of direction (149); § 56. The triple point (151); § 57. Maximum and minimum values of a function (154); § 58. How to find maximum and minimum values of a function (155); § 59. Points of inflexion (158); § 60. How to find whether a curve is concave or convex (159); § 61. How to find points of inflexion (160); § 62. Six problems in maxima and minima (161); § 63. Singular points (168); § 64. *pv*-Curves (172); § 65. Imaginary quantities (176); § 66. Curvature (178); § 67. Envelopes (182).

### CHAPTER IV.—THE INTEGRAL CALCULUS.

§ 68. Integration (184); § 69. Table of standard integrals (192); § 70. The simpler methods of integration (192); § 71. How to find a value for the integration constant (198); § 72. Integration by the substitution of a new variable (200); § 73. Integration by parts (205); § 74. Integration by successive reduction (206); § 75. Reduction formulæ—for reference (208); § 76. Integration by resolution into partial fractions (212); § 77. The velocity of chemical reactions (218); § 78. Chemical equilibria—incomplete or reversible reactions (225); § 79. Fractional precipitation (229); § 80. Areas enclosed by curves. To evaluate definite integrals (231); § 81. Mean values of integrals (234); § 82. Areas bounded by curves. Work diagrams (237); § 83. Definite integrals and their properties (240); § 84. To find the length of any curve (245); § 85. To find the area of a surface of revolution (247); § 86. To find the volume of a solid of revolution (248); § 87. Successive integration. Multiple integrals (249); § 88. The isothermal expansion of gases (254); § 89. The adiabatic expansion of gases (257); § 90. The influence of temperature on chemical and physical changes (262).

### CHAPTER V.—INFINITE SERIES AND THEIR USES.

§ 91. What is an infinite series? (266); § 92. Washing precipitates (269); § 93. Tests for convergent series (271); § 94. Approximate calculations in scientific work (273); § 95. Approximate calculations by means of infinite series (276); § 96. Maclaurin's theorem (280); § 97. Useful deductions from Maclaurin's theorem (282); § 98. Taylor's theorem (286); § 99. The contact of curves (291); § 100. Extension of Taylor's theorem (292); § 101. The determination of maximum and minimum values of a function by means of Taylor's series (293); § 102. Lagrange's theorem (301); § 103. Indeterminate functions (304); § 104.

The calculus of finite differences (308); § 105. Interpolation (310); § 106. Differential coefficients from numerical observations (318); § 107. How to represent a set of observations by means of a formula (322); § 108. To evaluate the constants in empirical or theoretical formulæ (324); § 109. Substitutes for integration (333); § 110. Approximate integration (335); § 111. Integration by infinite series (341); § 112. The hyperbolic functions (346).

#### CHAPTER VI.—HOW TO SOLVE NUMERICAL EQUATIONS.

§ 113. Some general properties of the roots of equations (352); § 114. Graphic methods for the approximate solution of numerical equations (353); § 115. Newton's method for the approximate solution of numerical equations (358); § 116. How to separate equal roots from an equation (359); § 117. Sturm's method of locating the real and unequal roots of a numerical equation (360); § 118. Horner's method for approximating to the real roots of numerical equations (363); § 119. Van der Waals' equation (367).

#### CHAPTER VII.—HOW TO SOLVE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS.

§ 120. The solution of a differential equation by the separation of the variables (370); § 121. What is a differential equation? (374); § 122. Exact differential equations of the first order (378); § 123. How to find integrating factors (381); § 124. Physical meaning of exact differentials (384); § 125. Linear differential equations of the first order (387); § 126. Differential equations of the first order and of the first or higher degree—Solution by differentiation (390); § 127. Clairaut's equation (391); § 128. Singular solutions (392); § 129. Symbols of operation (396); § 130. Equations of oscillatory motion (396); § 131. The linear equation of the second order (399); § 132. Damped oscillations (404); § 133. Some degenerates (410); § 134. Forced oscillations (413); § 135. How to find particular integrals (418); § 136. The gamma function (423); § 137. Elliptic integrals (426); § 138. The exact linear differential equation (431); § 139. The velocity of consecutive chemical reactions (433); § 140. Simultaneous equations with constant coefficients (441); § 141. Simultaneous equations with variable coefficients (444); § 142. Partial differential equations (448); § 143. What is the solution of a partial differential equation? (449); § 144. The linear partial differential equation of the first order (452); § 145. Some special forms (454); § 146. The linear partial equation of the second order (457); § 147. The approximate integration of differential equations (463).

#### CHAPTER VIII.—FOURIER'S THEOREM.

§ 148. Fourier's series (468); § 149. Evaluation of the constants in Fourier's series (470); § 150. The development of a function in a trigonometrical series (473); § 151. Extension of Fourier's series (477); § 152.

Fourier's linear diffusion law (481); § 153. Application to the diffusion of salts in solution (483); § 154. Application to problems on the conduction of heat (493).

## CHAPTER IX.—PROBABILITY AND THE THEORY OF ERRORS.

§ 155. Probability (498); § 156. Application to the kinetic theory of gases (504); § 157. Errors of observation (510); § 158. The "law" of errors (511); § 159. The probability integral (518); § 160. The best representative value for a set of observations (518); § 161. The probable error (521); § 162. Mean and average errors (524); § 163. Numerical values of the probability integrals (531); § 164. Maxwell's law of distribution of molecular velocities (534); § 165. Constant errors (537); § 166. Proportional errors (539); § 167. Observations of different degrees of accuracy (548); § 168. Observations limited by conditions (555); § 169. Gauss' method of solving a set of linear observation equations (557); § 170. When to reject suspected observations (563).

## CHAPTER X.—THE CALCULUS OF VARIATIONS.

§ 171. Differentials and variations (567); § 172. The variation of a function (568); § 173. The variation of an integral with fixed limits (569); § 174. Maximum or minimum values of a definite integral (570); § 175. The variation of an integral with variable limits (573); § 176. Relative maxima and minima (575); § 177. The differentiation of definite integrals (577); § 178. Double and triple integrals (577).

## CHAPTER XI.—DETERMINANTS.

§ 179. Simultaneous equations (580); § 180. The expansion of determinants (583); § 181. The solution of simultaneous equations (584); § 182. Test for consistent equations (585); § 183. Fundamental properties of determinants (587); § 184. The multiplication of determinants (589); § 185. The differentiation of determinants (590); § 186. Jacobians and Hessians (591); § 187. Illustrations from thermodynamics (594); § 188. Study of surfaces (595).

## APPENDIX I.—COLLECTION OF FORMULÆ AND TABLES FOR REFERENCE.

§ 189. Calculations with small quantities (601); § 190. Permutations and combinations (602); § 191. Mensuration formulæ (603); § 192. Plane trigonometry (606); § 193. Relations among the hyperbolic functions (612).

APPENDIX II.—REFERENCE TABLES.

- I. Singular values of functions (168); II. Standard integrals (193); III. Standard integrals (Hyperbolic functions) (349 and 614); IV. Numerical values of the hyperbolic sines, cosines,  $e^x$ , and  $e^{-x}$  (616); V. Common logarithms of the gamma function (426); VI. Numerical values of the factor  $\frac{0.574}{\sqrt{n-1}}$  (619); VII. Numerical values of the factor  $\frac{0.6745}{\sqrt{n(n-1)}}$  (619); VIII. Numerical values of the factor  $\frac{0.8453}{\sqrt{n(n-1)}}$  (620); IX. Numerical values of the factor  $\frac{0.8453}{n\sqrt{n-1}}$  (620); X. Numerical values of the probability integral  $\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{hx + h^2x^2} e^{-t^2} d(hx)$ , (621); XI. Numerical values of the probability integral  $\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{x/r} e^{-\left(\frac{x}{r}\right)^2} d\left(\frac{x}{r}\right)$ , (622); XII. Numerical values for the application of Chauvenet's criterion (623); XIII. Circular or radian measure of angles (624); XIV. Numerical values of some trigonometrical ratios (609); XV. Signs of the trigonometrical ratios (610); XVI. Comparison of hyperbolic and trigonometrical functions (614); XVII. Numerical values of  $e^{x^2}$  and of  $e^{-x^2}$  (626); XVIII. Natural logarithms of numbers (627)



## INTRODUCTION.

“Bientôt le calcul mathématique sera tout aussi utile au chimiste que la balance.”<sup>1</sup>—P. SCHÜTZENBERGER.

WHEN Isaac Newton communicated the manuscript of his “*Methodus fluxionum*” to his friends in 1669 he furnished science with its most powerful and subtle instrument of research. The states and conditions of matter, as they occur in Nature, are in a state of perpetual flux, and these qualities may be effectively studied by the Newtonian method whenever they can be referred to number or subjected to measurement (real or imaginary). By the aid of Newton’s calculus the mode of action of natural changes from moment to moment can be portrayed as faithfully as these words represent the thoughts at present in my mind. From this, the law which controls the whole process can be determined with unmistakable certainty by pure calculation—the so-called Higher Mathematics.

This work starts from the thesis<sup>2</sup> that so far as the investigator is concerned,

**Higher Mathematics is the art of reasoning about the numerical relations between natural phenomena; and the several sections of Higher Mathematics are different modes of viewing these relations.**

---

<sup>1</sup> Translated: “Ere long mathematics will be as useful to the chemist as the balance”. (1880.)

<sup>2</sup> In the *Annalen der Naturphilosophie*, 1, 50, 1902, W. Ostwald maintains that mathematics is only a language in which the results of experiments may be conveniently expressed; and from this standpoint criticises I. Kant’s *Metaphysical Foundations of Natural Science*.



For instance, I have assumed that the purpose of the Differential Calculus is to inquire how natural phenomena change from moment to moment. This change may be uniform and simple (Chapter I.); or it may be associated with certain so-called "singularities" (Chapter III.). The Integral Calculus (Chapters IV. and VII.) attempts to deduce the fundamental principle governing the whole course of any natural process from the law regulating the momentary states. Coordinate Geometry (Chapter II.) is concerned with the study of natural processes by means of "pictures" or geometrical figures. Infinite Series (Chapters V. and VIII.) furnish approximate ideas about natural processes when other attempts fail. From this, then, we proceed to study the various methods — tools — to be employed in Higher Mathematics.

This limitation of the scope of Higher Mathematics enables us to dispense with many of the formal proofs of rules and principles. Much of Sidgwick's<sup>1</sup> trenchant indictment of the educational value of formal logic might be urged against the subtle formalities which prevail in "school" mathematics. While none but logical reasoning could be for a moment tolerated, yet too often "its most frequent work is to build a *pons asinorum* over chasms that shrewd people can bestride without such a structure".<sup>2</sup>

So far as the tyro is concerned theoretical demonstrations are by no means so convincing as is sometimes supposed. It is as necessary to learn to "think in letters" and to handle numbers and quantities by their symbols as it is to learn to swim or to ride a bicycle. The inutility of "general proofs" is an everyday experience to the teacher. The beginner only acquires confidence by reasoning about something which allows him to test whether his results are true or false; he is really convinced only after the principle has been verified by actual measurement or by arithmetical illustration. "The best of all proofs," said Oliver Heaviside

---

<sup>1</sup> A. Sidgwick, *The Use of Words in Reasoning*. (A. & C. Black, London.)

<sup>2</sup> O. W. Holmes, *The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table*. (W. Scott, London.)

in a recent number of the *Electrician*, "is to set out the fact descriptively so that it can be seen to be a fact". Remembering also that the majority of students are only interested in mathematics so far as it is brought to bear directly on problems connected with their own work, I have, especially in the earlier parts, explained any troublesome principle or rule in terms of some well-known natural process. For example, the meaning of the differential coefficient and of a limiting ratio is first explained in terms of the velocity of a chemical reaction; the differentiation of exponential functions leads us to compound interest and hence to the "Compound Interest Law" in Nature; the general equations of the straight line are deduced from solubility curves; discontinuous functions lead us to discuss Mendeléeff's work on the existence of hydrates in solutions; Wilhelmy's law of mass action prepares us for a detailed study of processes of integration; Harcourt and Esson's work introduces the study of simultaneous differential equations; the equations of motion serve as a basis for the treatment of differential equations of the second order; Fourier's series is applied to diffusion phenomena, etc., etc. Unfortunately, this plan has caused the work to assume more formidable dimensions than if the precise and rigorous language of the mathematicians had been retained throughout.

I have sometimes found it convenient to evade a tedious demonstration by reference to the "regular text-books". In such cases, if the student wants to "dig deeper," one of the following works, according to subject, will be found sufficient: B. Williamson's *Differential Calculus*, also the same author's *Integral Calculus*, London, 1899; A. R. Forsyth's *Differential Equations*, London, 1902; W. W. Johnson's *Differential Equations*, New York, 1899.

Of course, it is not always advisable to evade proofs in this summary way. The fundamental assumptions—the so-called premises—employed in deducing some formulæ must be carefully checked and clearly understood. However correct the reasoning may have been, any limitations introduced as premises must, of necessity, reappear in the con-

clusions. The resulting formulæ can, in consequence, only be applied to data which satisfy the limiting conditions. The results deduced in Chapter IX. exemplify, in a forcible manner, the perils which attend the indiscriminate application of mathematical formulæ to experimental data. Some formulæ are particularly liable to mislead. The "probable error" is one of the greatest sinners in this respect.

The teaching of mathematics by means of abstract problems is a good old practice easily abused. The abuse has given rise to a widespread conviction that "mathematics is the art of problem solving," or, perhaps, the prejudice dates from certain painful reminiscences associated with the arithmetic of our school-days.

Under the heading "Examples" I have collected laboratory measurements, well-known formulæ, practical problems and exercises to illustrate the text immediately preceding. A few of the problems are abstract exercises in pure mathematics, old friends, which have run through dozens of text-books. The greater number, however, are based upon measurements, etc., recorded in papers in the current science journals (Continental, American or British) and are used in this connection for the first time.

It can serve no useful purpose to disguise the fact that a certain amount of drilling, nay, even of drudgery, is necessary in some stages, if mathematics is to be of *real* use as a working tool, and not employed simply for quoting the results of others. The proper thing, obviously, is to make the beginner feel that he is gaining strength and power during the drilling. In order to guide the student along the right path, hints and explanations have been appended to those exercises which have been found to present any difficulty. The subject-matter contains no difficulty which has not been mastered by beginners of average ability without the help of a teacher.

The student of this work is supposed to possess a working knowledge of elementary algebra so far as to be able to solve a set of simple simultaneous equations, and to know the meaning of a few trigonometrical formulæ. If any

difficulty should arise on this head, it is very possible that the appendix will contain what is required on the subject. I have, indeed, every reason to suppose that beginners in the study of Higher Mathematics most frequently find their ideas on the questions discussed in §§ 10, 11, and the appendix, have grown so rusty with neglect as to require refurbishing.

I have also assumed that the reader is acquainted with the elementary principles of chemistry and physics. Should any illustration involve some phenomenon with which he is not acquainted, there are two remedies—to skip it, or to look up some text-book. There is no special reason why the student should waste time with illustrations in which he has no interest.

It will be found necessary to procure a set of mathematical tables containing the common logarithms of numbers and numerical values of the natural trigonometrical ratios. Such sets can be purchased from a penny upwards. The other numerical tables required for reference in Higher Mathematics are reproduced in Appendix II.



# HIGHER MATHEMATICS

FOR

STUDENTS OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS



## CHAPTER I.

### THE DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS.

“The philosopher may be delighted with the extent of his views, the artificer with the readiness of his hands, but let the one remember that without mechanical performance, refined speculation is an empty dream, and the other that without theoretical reasoning, dexterity is little more than brute instinct.”—S. JOHNSON.

#### § 1. On the Nature of Mathematical Reasoning.

HERBERT SPENCER has defined a law of Nature as a proposition stating that a certain uniformity has been observed in the relations between certain phenomena. In this sense a law of Nature expresses a mathematical relation between the phenomena under consideration. Every physical law, therefore, can be represented in the form of a mathematical equation. One of the chief objects of scientific investigation is to find out how one thing depends on another, and to express this relationship in the form of a mathematical equation—symbolic or otherwise—is the experimenter's ideal goal.<sup>1</sup>

There is in some minds an erroneous notion that the methods of higher mathematics are prohibitively difficult. Any difficulty that might arise is rather due to the complicated nature of the

---

<sup>1</sup> Thus M. Berthelot, in the preface to his celebrated *Essai de Mécanique Chimique fondée sur la thermochemie* of 1879, described his work as an attempt to base chemistry wholly on those mechanical principles which prevail in various branches of physical science. E. Kant, in the preface to his *Metaphysischen Anfangsgründen der Naturwissenschaft*, has said that in every department of physical science there is only so much science, properly so called, as there is mathematics. As a consequence, he denied to chemistry the name “science”. But there was no “Journal of Physical Chemistry” in his time (1786).



phenomena alone. A. Comte has said in his *Philosophie Positive*, "our feeble minds can no longer trace the logical consequences of the laws of natural phenomena whenever we attempt to simultaneously include more than two or three essential factors".<sup>1</sup> In consequence it is generally found expedient to introduce "simplifying assumptions" into the mathematical analysis. For example, in the theory of solutions we pretend that the dissolved substance behaves as if it were an indifferent gas. The kinetic theory of gases, thermodynamics, and other branches of applied mathematics are full of such assumptions.

By no process of sound reasoning can a conclusion drawn from limited data have more than a limited application. Even when the comparison between the observed and calculated results is considered satisfactory, the errors of observation may quite obscure the imperfections of formulæ based on incomplete or simplified premises. Given a sufficient number of "if's," there is no end to the weaving of "cobwebs of learning admirable for the fineness of thread and work, but of no substance or profit".<sup>2</sup> The only safeguard is to compare the deductions of mathematics with observation and experiment "for the very simple reason that they are only deductions, and the premises from which they are made may be inaccurate or incomplete. We must remember that we cannot get more out of the mathematical mill than we put into it, though we may get it in a form infinitely more useful for our purpose."<sup>3</sup>

The first clause of this last sentence is often quoted in a parrot-like way as an objection to mathematics. Nothing but real ignorance as to the nature of mathematical reasoning could give rise to such a thought. No process of sound reasoning can establish a result not contained in the premises. It is admitted on all sides that any demonstration is vicious if it contains in the conclusion anything *more* than was assumed

---

<sup>1</sup> I believe that this is the key to the interpretation of Comte's strange remarks: "Every attempt to employ mathematical methods in the study of chemical questions must be considered profoundly irrational and contrary to the spirit of chemistry.... If mathematical analysis should ever hold a prominent place in chemistry—an aberration which is happily almost impossible—it would occasion a rapid and widespread degeneration of that science."—*Philosophie Positive*, 1830.

<sup>2</sup> F. Bacon's *The Advancement of Learning*, Oxford edit., 32, 1869.

<sup>3</sup> J. Hopkinson's *James Forrest Lecture*, 1894.

in the premises.<sup>1</sup> Why then is mathematics singled out and condemned for possessing the essential attribute of all sound reasoning?

Logic and mathematics are both mere tools by which “the decisions of the mind are worked out with accuracy,” but both must be *directed* by the mind. I do not know if it is any easier to see a fallacy in the assertion that “when the sun shines it is day; the sun always shines, therefore it is always day,” than in the statement that since  $(\frac{5}{2} - 3)^2 = (\frac{5}{2} - 2)^2$ , we get, on extracting roots,  $\frac{5}{2} - 3 = \frac{5}{2} - 2$ ; or  $3 = 2$ . We must possess a clear conception of any physical process before we can attempt to apply mathematical methods; mathematics has no symbols for confused ideas.

It has been said that no science is established on a firm basis unless its generalizations can be expressed in terms of number, and it is the special province of mathematics to *assist* the investigator in finding numerical relations between phenomena. After experiment, then mathematics. While a science is in the experimental or observational stage, there is little scope for discerning numerical relations. It is only *after* the different workers have “collected data” that the mathematician is able to deduce the required generalization. Thus a Maxwell followed Faraday, and a Newton completed Kepler.

It must not be supposed, however, that these remarks are intended to imply that a law of Nature has ever been represented by a mathematical expression with perfect exactness. In the best of generalizations, hypothetical conditions invariably replace the complex state of things which actually obtains in Nature.

Most, if not all, the formulæ of physics and chemistry are in the earlier stages of a process of evolution. For example, some exact experiments by Forbes, and by Tait, indicate that Fourier’s formula for the conduction of heat gives somewhat discordant results on account of the inexact simplifying assumption: “the quantity of heat passing along a given line is proportional to the rate of change of temperature”; Weber has pointed out that

---

<sup>1</sup> Inductive reasoning is, of course, good guessing, not *sound* reasoning, but the finest results in science have been obtained in this way. Calling the guess a “working hypothesis,” its consequences are tested by experiment in every conceivable way. For example, the brilliant work of Fresnel was the sequel of Young’s undulatory theory of light, and Hertz’s finest work was suggested by Maxwell’s electro-magnetic theories.

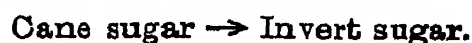
Fick's equation for the diffusion of salts in solution must be modified to allow for the decreasing diffusivity of the salt with increasing concentration; and finally, van der Waals, Clausius, Rankine, Sarrau, etc., have attempted to correct the simple gas equation:  $pv = RT$ , by making certain assumptions as to the internal structure of the gas.

There is a prevailing impression that once a mathematical formula has been theoretically deduced, the law, embodied in the formula, has been sufficiently demonstrated, provided the differences between the "calculated" and the "observed" results fall within the limits of experimental error. The important point, already emphasized, is quite overlooked, namely, that any discrepancy between theory and fact is masked by errors of observation. With improved instruments, and better methods of measurement, more accurate data are from time to time available. The errors of observation being thus reduced, the approximate nature of the formulæ becomes more and more apparent. Ultimately, the discrepancy between theory and fact becomes too great to be ignored. It is then necessary to "go over the fundamentals". New formulæ must be obtained embodying less of hypothesis, more of fact. Thus, from the first bold guess of an original mind, succeeding generations progress step by step towards a comprehensive and a complete formulation of the several laws of Nature.

## § 2. The Differential Coefficient.

Heracleitos has said that "everything is in motion," and daily experience teaches us that changes are continually taking place in the properties of bodies around us. Change of position, change of motion, of temperature, volume, and chemical composition are but a few of the myriad changes associated with bodies in general.

Higher mathematics, in general, deals with magnitudes which change in a continuous manner. In order to render such a process susceptible to mathematical treatment, the magnitude is supposed to change during a series of very short intervals of time. The shorter the interval the more uniform the process. This conception is of fundamental importance. To illustrate, let us consider the chemical reaction denoted by the equation:



The velocity of the reaction, or the amount<sup>1</sup> of cane sugar transformed in unit time, will be

$$\text{Velocity of chemical action} = \frac{\text{Amount of substance produced}}{\text{Time of observation}} \quad (1)$$

This expression only determines the average velocity,  $V$ , of the reaction during the time of observation. If we let  $x_1$  denote the amount of substance present at the time,  $t_1$ , when the observation commences, and  $x_2$  the amount present at the time  $t_2$ , the average velocity of the reaction will be

$$V = \frac{x_1 - x_2}{t_2 - t_1}; \therefore V = \frac{\delta x}{\delta t}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\delta x$  and  $\delta t$  respectively denote differences  $x_1 - x_2$ , and  $t_2 - t_1$ . As a matter of fact the reaction progresses more and more slowly as time goes on. Of course, if sixty grams of invert sugar were produced at the end of one minute, and the velocity of the reaction was quite uniform during the time of observation, it follows that one gram of invert sugar would be produced every second. We understand the **mean or average velocity** of a reaction in any given interval of time, to be the amount of substance which would be formed in unit time if the velocity remained uniform and constant throughout the interval in question. But the velocity is *not* uniform—it seldom is in natural changes. In consequence, the average velocity, sixty grams per *minute*, does not represent the rate of formation of invert sugar during any particular *second*, but simply the fact observed, namely, the mean rate of formation of invert sugar during the time of observation.

Again, if we measured the velocity of the reaction during one second, and found that half a gram of invert sugar was formed in that interval of time, we could only say that invert sugar was produced at the rate of half a gram per second during the time of observation. But in that case, the average velocity would more accurately represent the actual velocity during the time of observation, because there is less time for the velocity of the reaction to vary during one than during sixty seconds.

---

<sup>1</sup> By "amount of substance" we understand "number of gram-molecules" per litre of solution. "One gram-molecule" is the molecular weight of the substance expressed in grams. *E.g.*, 18 grms. of water is 1 gram-molecule; 27 grms. is 1.5 gram-molecules; 36 grms. is 2 gram-molecules, etc. We use the terms "amount," "quantity," "concentration," and "active mass" synonymously.

By shortening the time of observation the average velocity approaches more and more nearly to the actual velocity of the reaction during the whole time of observation. In order to measure the velocity of the reaction at any instant of time, it would be necessary to measure the amount of substance formed during an infinitely short instant of time. But any measurement we can possibly make must occupy *some* time, and consequently the velocity of the particle has time to alter while the measurement is in progress. It is thus a physical impossibility to measure the velocity at any instant; but, in spite of this fact, it is frequently necessary to reason about this ideal condition.

We therefore understand by **velocity at any instant**, the mean or average velocity during a very small interval of time, with the proviso that we can get as near as we please to the actual velocity at any instant by taking the time of observation sufficiently small. An instantaneous velocity is represented by the symbol

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = V, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

where  $dx$  is the symbol used by mathematicians to represent an infinitely small amount of something (in the above illustration, invert sugar), and  $dt$  a correspondingly short interval of time. Hence it follows that neither of these symbols *per se* is of any practical value, but their quotient stands for a perfectly definite conception, namely, *the rate of chemical transformation measured during an interval of time so small that all possibility of error due to variation of speed is eliminated.*

**NUMERICAL ILLUSTRATION.**—The rate of conversion of acetochloranilide into *p*-chloracetanilide, just *exactly* four minutes after the reaction had started, was found to be 4.42 gram-molecules per minute. The “time of observation” was infinitely small. When the measurement occupied the whole four minutes, the average velocity was found to be 8.87 gram-molecules per minute; when the measurement occupied two minutes, the average velocity was 5.90 units per minute; and finally, when the time of observation occupied one minute, the reaction apparently progressed at the rate of 4.70 units per minute. Obviously then we approximate more closely to the actual velocity, 4.42 gram-molecules per minute, the smaller the time of observation.

The idea of an instantaneous velocity, measured during an interval of time so small that no perceptible error can affect the result, is constantly recurring in physical problems, and we shall soon see that the so-called “methods of differentiation” will

actually enable us to find the velocity or rate of change under these conditions. The quotient  $dx/dt$  is known as the **differential coefficient** of  $x$  with respect to  $t$ . The value of  $x$  obviously depends upon what value is assigned to  $t$ , the time of observation; for this reason,  $x$  is called the **dependent variable**,  $t$  the **independent variable**. *The differential coefficient is the only true measure of a velocity at any instant of time.* Our "independent variable" is sometimes called the **principal variable**; our "dependent variable" the **subsidiary variable**.

Just as the idea of the velocity of a chemical reaction represents the amount of substance formed in a given time, so the velocity of any motion can be expressed in terms of the differential coefficient of a distance with respect to time, be the motion that of a train, tramcar, bullet, sound-wave, water in a pipe, or of an electric current.

The term "velocity" not only includes the *rate* of motion, but also the *direction* of the motion. If we agree to represent the velocity of a train travelling southwards to London, positive, a train going northwards to Aberdeen would be travelling with a negative velocity. Again, we may conventionally agree to consider the rate of formation of invert sugar from cane sugar as a positive velocity, the rate of decomposition of cane sugar into invert sugar as a negative velocity.

It is not necessary, for our present purpose, to enter into refined distinctions between rate, speed, and velocity. Velocity is of course directed speed. I shall use the three terms synonymously.

The concept velocity need not be associated with bodies. Every one is familiar with such terms as "the velocity of light," "the velocity of sound," and "the velocity of an explosion-wave". The chemical student will soon adapt the idea to such phrases as, "the velocity of chemical action," "the speed of catalysis," "the rate of dissociation," "the velocity of diffusion," "the rate of evaporation," etc. It requires no great mental effort to extend the notion still further. If a quantity of heat is added to a substance at a uniform rate, the quantity of heat,  $Q$ , added per degree rise of temperature,  $\theta$ , corresponds exactly with the idea of a distance traversed per second of time. Specific heat, therefore, may be represented by the differential coefficient  $dQ/d\theta$ . Similarly, the increase in volume per degree rise of temperature is

represented by the differential coefficient  $dv/d\theta$ ; the decrease in volume per unit of pressure,  $p$ , is represented by the ratio  $-dv/dp$ , where the negative sign signifies that the volume decreases with increase of pressure. In these examples, it has been assumed that unit mass or unit volume of substance is operated upon, and therefore the differential coefficients respectively represent specific heat, coefficient of expansion, and coefficient of compressibility.

From these and similar illustrations which will occur to the reader, it will be evident that the conception called by mathematicians "the differential coefficient" is not new. Every one consciously or unconsciously uses it whenever a "rate," "speed," or a "velocity" is in question.

### § 3. Differentials.

It is sometimes convenient to regard  $dx$  and  $dt$ , or more generally  $dx$  and  $dy$ , as very small quantities which determine the course of any particular process under investigation. These small magnitudes are called *differentials* or *infinitesimals*. Some one has defined differentials as small quantities "verging on nothing". Differentials may be treated like ordinary algebraic magnitudes. The quantity of invert sugar formed in the time  $dt$  is represented by the differential  $dx$ . Hence from (3), if  $dx/dt = V$ , we may write in the language of differentials

$$dx = V \cdot dt.$$

I suppose that the beginner has only built up a vague idea of the magnitude of differentials or infinitesimals. They seem at once to exist and not to exist. I will now try to make the concept more clearly defined.

### § 4. Orders of Magnitude.

If a small number  $n$  be divided into a million parts, each part,<sup>1</sup>  $n \times 10^{-6}$  is so very small that it may for all practical purposes be neglected in comparison with  $n$ . If we agree to call  $n$  a *magnitude of the first order*, the quantity  $n \times 10^{-6}$  is a *magnitude of the second order*. If one of these parts be again subdivided into a

---

<sup>1</sup> Note  $10^4 =$  unity followed by four cyphers, or 10,000.  $10^{-4}$  is a decimal point followed by three cyphers and unity, or  $10^{-4} = \frac{1}{10,000} = 0.0001$ . This notation is in general use.



million parts, each part,  $n \times 10^{-12}$ , is extremely small when compared with  $n$ , and the quantity  $n \times 10^{-12}$  is *a magnitude of the third order*. We thus obtain a series of magnitudes of the first, second, and higher orders,

$$n, \frac{n}{1.000000}, \frac{n}{1.000000.000000}, \dots,$$

each one of which is negligibly small in comparison with those which precede it, and very large relative to those which follow.

This idea is of great practical use in the reduction of intricate expressions to a simpler form more easily manipulated. It is usual to reject magnitudes of a higher order than those under investigation when the resulting error is so small that it is outside the limits of the "errors of observation" peculiar to that method of investigation.

Having selected our unit of smallness, we decide what part of this is going to be regarded as a small quantity of the first order. Small quantities of the second order then bear the same ratio to magnitudes of the first order, as the latter bear to the unit of measurement. In the "theory of the moon," for example, we are told that  $\frac{1}{12}$  is reckoned small in comparison with unity;  $(\frac{1}{12})^2$  is a small magnitude of the second order;  $(\frac{1}{12})^3$  of the third order, etc. Calculations have been made up to the sixth or seventh orders of small quantities.

In order to prevent any misconception it might be pointed out that "great" and "small" in mathematics, like "hot" and "cold" in physics, are purely relative terms. The astronomer in calculating interstellar distances comprising millions of miles takes no notice of a few thousand miles; while the physicist dare not neglect distances of the order of the ten thousandth of an inch in his measurements of the wave length of light.

A term, therefore, is not to be rejected simply because it *seems* small in an absolute sense, but only when it appears small in comparison with a much larger magnitude, and when an exact determination of this small quantity has no appreciable effect on the magnitude of the larger. In making up a litre of normal oxalic acid solution, the weighing of the 63 grams of acid required need not be more accurate than to the tenth of a gram. In many forms of analytical work, however, the thousandth of a gram is of fundamental importance; an error of a tenth of a gram would stultify the result.



### § 5. Zero and Infinity.

The words “infinitely small” were used in the second paragraph. It is, of course, impossible to conceive of an infinitely small or of an infinitely great magnitude, for if it were possible to retain either of these quantities before the mind for a moment, it would be just as easy to think of a smaller or a greater as the case might be. In mathematical thought the word “infinity” (written:  $\infty$ ) signifies the *properties* possessed by a magnitude greater than any finite magnitude that can be named. For instance, the greater we make the radius of a circle, the more approximately does the circumference approach a straight line, until, when the radius is made infinitely great, the circumference may, without committing any sensible error, be taken to represent a straight line. The consequences of the above definition of infinity have led to some of the most important results of higher mathematics. To summarize, infinity represents neither the magnitude nor the value of any particular quantity. *The term “infinity” is simply an abbreviation for the property of growing large without limit. E.g., “ $\tan 90^\circ = \infty$ ” means that as an angle approaches  $90^\circ$ , its tangent grows indefinitely large. Now for the opposite of greatness—smallness.*

In mathematics two meanings are given to the word “zero”. The ordinary meaning of the word implies the total absence of magnitude; we shall call this **absolute zero**. Nothing remains when the thing spoken of or thought about is taken away. If four units be taken from four units absolutely nothing remains. There is, however, another meaning to be attached to the word different from the destruction of the thing itself. If a small number be divided by a billion we get a small fraction. If this fraction be raised to the billionth power we get a number still more nearly equal to absolute zero. By continuing this process as long as we please we continually approach, but never actually reach, the absolute zero. In this relative sense, zero—**relative zero**—is defined as “an infinitely small” or “a vanishingly small number,” or “a number smaller than any assignable fraction of unity”. For example, we might consider a point as an infinitely small circle or an infinitely short line. To put these ideas tersely, *absolute zero implies that the thing and all the properties are absent; relative zero implies that however small the thing may be its*

*property of growing small without limit is alone retained in the mind.*

EXAMPLES.—(1) After the reader has verified the following results he will understand the special meaning to be attached to the zero and infinity of mathematical reasoning.  $n$  denotes any finite number; and “?” an indeterminate magnitude, that is, one whose exact value cannot be determined.

$\infty + \infty = \infty$ ;  $\infty - \infty = ?$ ;  $n \times 0 = 0$ ;  $0 \times 0 = 0$ ;  $n \times \infty = \infty$ ;  $0/0 = ?$ ;  $n/0 = \infty$ ;  $0/n = 0$ ;  $\infty/0 = \infty$ ;  $0/\infty = 0$ ;  $n/\infty = 0$ ;  $\infty/n = \infty$ .

(2) Let  $y = 1/(1 - x)$  and put  $x = 1$ , then  $y = \infty$ ; if  $x < 1$ ,  $y$  is positive; and when  $x > 1$ ,  $y$  is negative.<sup>1</sup> Thus a variable magnitude may change its sign when it becomes infinite.

If the reader has access to the *Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society* (11. 145, 1871), A. de Morgan's paper “On Infinity,” is worth reading in connection with this subject.

## § 6. Limiting Values.

I. *The sum of an infinite number of terms may have a finite value.* Converting  $\frac{1}{3}$  into a decimal fraction we obtain

$$\frac{1}{3} = 0.1111 \dots \text{continued to infinity,}$$

$$\frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{100} + \frac{1}{1000} + \dots \text{to infinity,}$$

that is to say, the sum of an infinite number of terms is equal to  $\frac{1}{3}$ —a finite term! If we were to attempt to perform this summation we should find that as long as the number of terms is finite we could never actually obtain the result  $\frac{1}{3}$ . We should be ever getting nearer but never get actually there.

If we omit all terms after the first, the result is  $\frac{1}{10}$  less than  $\frac{1}{3}$ ; if we omit all terms after the third, the result is  $\frac{1}{9.000}$  too little; and if we omit all terms after the sixth, the result is  $\frac{1}{9.000.000}$  less than  $\frac{1}{3}$ , that is to say, the sum of these terms continually approaches but is never actually equal to  $\frac{1}{3}$  as long as the number of terms is finite.  $\frac{1}{3}$  is then said to be the **limiting value** of the sum of this series of terms.

Again, the perimeter of a polygon inscribed in a circle is less than the sum of the arcs of the circle, i.e., less than the circum-

<sup>1</sup> The signs of inequality are as follows: “ $\neq$ ” denotes “is not equal to”; “ $>$ ,” “is greater than”; “ $\nlessgtr$ ,” “is not greater than”; “ $<$ ,” “is less than”; and “ $\nlessgtr$ ,” “is not less than”. For “ $\equiv$ ” read “is equivalent to” or “is identical with”. The symbol  $\supseteq$  has been used in place of the phrase “is greater than or equal to,” and  $\leq$ , in place of “is equal to or less than”.

ference of the circle.

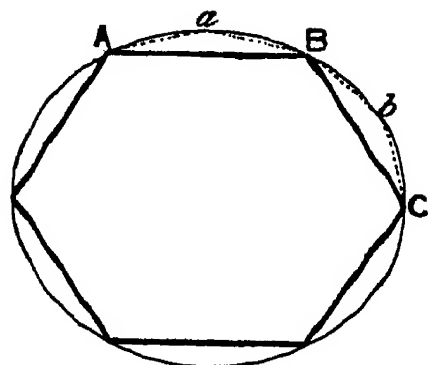


FIG. 1.

In Fig. 1, let the arcs  $AaB$ ,  $BbC$ ... be bisected at  $a$ ,  $b$ ... Join  $Aa$ ,  $aB$ ,  $Bb$ , ... Although the perimeter of the second polygon is greater than the first, it is still less than the circumference of the circle. In a similar way, if the arcs of this second polygon are bisected, we get a third polygon whose perimeter approaches yet nearer to the circumference of the circle. By continuing this process, a polygon may be obtained as nearly equal to the circum-

ference of a circle as we please. The circumference of the circle is thus the limiting value of the perimeter of an inscribed polygon when the number of its sides is increased indefinitely.

In general, when a variable magnitude  $x$  continually approaches nearer and nearer to a constant value  $n$  so that  $x$  can be made to differ from  $n$  by a quantity less than any assignable magnitude,  $n$  is said to be the limiting value of  $x$ .

From page 8, it follows that  $dx/dt$  is the limiting value<sup>1</sup> of  $\delta x/\delta t$ , when  $t$  is made less than any finite quantity, however small. This is written, for brevity,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \text{Lt}_{t=0} \frac{\delta x}{\delta t};$$

in words " $dx/dt$  is the limiting value of  $\delta x/\delta t$  when  $t$  becomes zero" or rather relative zero, i.e., small without limit. This notation is frequently employed.

The sign " $=$ " when used in connection with differential coefficients does not mean "is equal to," but rather "can be made as nearly equal to as we please". We could replace the usual " $=$ " by some other symbol, say " $\Rightarrow$ ," if it were worth while.<sup>2</sup>

II. The value of a limiting ratio depends on the relation between the two variables. Strictly speaking, the limiting value of

<sup>1</sup> Although differential quotients are, in this work, written in the form " $dx/dt$ ,"  $d^2x/dt^2$ ... , the student in working through the examples and demonstrations, should write  $\frac{dx}{dt}$ ,  $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$ ... The former method is used to economize space.

<sup>2</sup> The symbol " $x \doteq 0$ " is sometimes used for the phrase "as  $x$  approaches zero". "lim"  $x=0$ ; " $\lim_{x=0}$ "; or " $\mathcal{E}$ " are also used instead of our " $\text{Lt}_{x=0}$ ," meaning "the limit of... as  $x$  approaches zero".

the ratio  $\delta x/\delta t$  has the form  $\frac{0}{0}$ , and as such is indeterminate—in-determinate, because  $\frac{0}{0}$  may have any numerical value we please. It is not difficult to see this, for example,  $\frac{0}{0} = 0$ , because  $0 \times 0 = 0$ ;  $\frac{0}{0} = 1$ , because  $0 \times 1 = 0$ ;  $\frac{0}{0} = 2$ , because  $0 \times 2 = 0$ ;  $\frac{0}{0} = 15$ , because  $0 \times 15 = 0$ ;  $\frac{0}{0} = 999,999$ , because  $0 \times 999,999 = 0$ , etc.

EXAMPLE.—There is a “hoary-headed” puzzle which goes like this: Given  $x = a$ ;  $\therefore x^2 = xa$ ;  $\therefore x^2 - a^2 = xa - a^2$ ;  $\therefore (x - a)(x + a) = a(x - a)$ ;  $\therefore x + a = a$ ;  $\therefore 2a = a$ ;  $\therefore 2 = 1$ . Where is the fallacy? Ansr. The step  $(x - a)(x + a) = a(x - a)$  means  $(x + a) \times 0 = a \times 0$ , i.e., no times  $x + a =$  no times  $a$ , and it does not necessarily follow that  $x + a$  is therefore equal to  $a$ .

For all practical purposes the differential coefficient  $dx/dt$  is to be regarded as a fraction or quotient. The quotient  $dx/dt$  may also be called a “rate-measurer,” because it determines the velocity or rate with which one quantity varies when an extremely small variation is given to the other. The actual value of the ratio  $dx/dt$  depends on the relation subsisting between  $x$  and  $t$ .

Consider the following three illustrations: If the point  $P$  move on the circumference of the circle towards a fixed point  $Q$  (Fig. 2), the arc  $x$  will diminish at the same time as the chord  $y$ . By bringing the point  $P$  sufficiently near to  $Q$ , we obtain an arc and its chord each less than any given line, that is, the arc and the chord continually approach a ratio of equality. Or, the limiting value of the ratio  $\delta x/\delta y$  is unity.

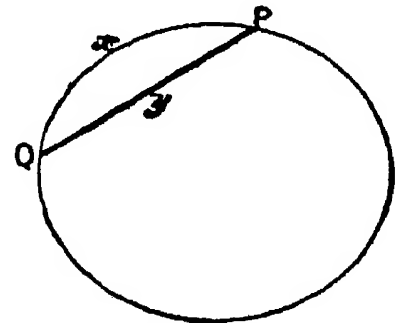


FIG. 2.

$$\therefore \text{Lt}_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta x}{\delta y} = \frac{dx}{dy} = 1.$$

It is easy to show this numerically. Let us start with an angle of  $60^\circ$  and compare the length,  $dx$ , of the arc with the length,  $dy$ , of the corresponding chord.

Angle at Centre.	$dx$ .	$dy$ .	$\frac{dx}{dy}$ .
$60^\circ$	1.0472	1.0000	1.0472
$30^\circ$	0.5236	0.5176	1.0115
$10^\circ$	0.1745	0.1743	1.0013
$5^\circ$	0.0873	0.0872	1.0003
$1^\circ$	0.0175	0.0175	1.0000

A chord of  $1^\circ$  does not differ from the corresponding arc in the first four decimal places; if the angle is  $1'$ , the agreement extends through the first seven decimal places; and if the angle be  $1''$ , the agreement extends through the first fifteen decimals. The arc and its chord thus approach a ratio of equality.

If  $ABC$  (Fig. 3) be any right-angled triangle such that  $AB = BC$ ; by Pythagoras' theorem or Euclid, i., 47, and vi., 4,

$$AB : AC = x : y = 1 : \sqrt{2}.$$

If a line  $DE$ , moving towards  $A$ , remain parallel to  $BC$ , this proportion will remain constant even though each side of the triangle  $ADE$  is made less than any assignable magnitude, however small. That is

$$\text{Lt}_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta x}{\delta y} = \frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

Let  $ABC$  be a triangle inscribed in a circle (Fig. 4), when  $BC$  is a diameter and  $BAC$  is a right angle. Draw  $AD$  perpendicular to  $BC$ . Then by Euclid, vi., 8

$$BC : AC = AC : DC = x : y.$$

If  $A$  approaches  $C$  until the chord  $AC$  becomes indefinitely small,  $DC$  will also become indefinitely small. The above propor-

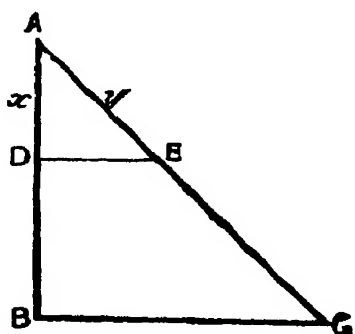


FIG. 3.

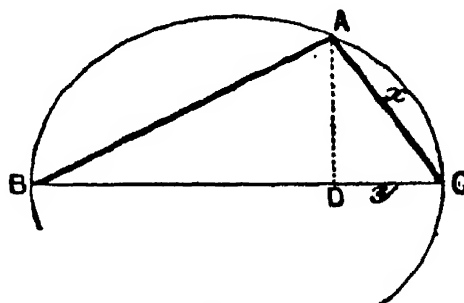


FIG. 4.

tion, however, remains. When the ratio  $BC : AC$  becomes infinitely great, the ratio of  $AC$  to  $DC$  will also become infinitely great, or

$$\text{Lt}_{y \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta x}{\delta y} = \frac{dx}{dy} = \infty.$$

It therefore follows at once that *although two quantities may become infinitely small their limiting ratio may have any finite or infinite value whatever.*

**EXAMPLE.**—Point out the error in the following deduction: "If  $AB$  (Fig. 3) is a perpendicular erected upon the straight line  $BC$ , and  $C$  is any point

upon  $BC$ , then  $AC$  is greater than  $AB$ , however near  $C$  may be to  $B$ , and, therefore, the same is true at the limit, when  $C$  coincides with  $B$ ". Hint.—The proper way to put it is to say that  $AC$  becomes more and more nearly equal to  $AB$ , as  $C$  approaches  $B$ , etc.

Two quantities are generally said to be equal when their difference is zero. This does not hold when dealing with differentials. The difference between two infinitely small quantities may be zero and yet the quantities are not equal. Infinitesimals can only be regarded as equal when their ratio is unity.

### § 7. The Differential Coefficient of a Differential Coefficient.

Velocity itself is generally changing. The velocity of a falling stone gradually increases during its descent, while, if a stone is projected upwards, its velocity gradually decreases during its ascent. Instead of using the awkward term "the velocity of a velocity," the word **acceleration** is employed. If the velocity is increasing at a uniform rate, the acceleration,  $F$ , or rate of change of velocity, or rate of change of motion, is evidently

$$\text{Acceleration} = \frac{\text{Increase of velocity}}{\text{Time}}; \quad F = \frac{V_2 - V_1}{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{\delta V}{\delta t}, \quad (1)$$

where  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  respectively denote the velocities at the beginning,  $t_1$ , and end,  $t_2$ , of the interval of time under consideration; and  $\delta V$  denotes the small change of velocity during the interval of time  $\delta t$ .

In order to fix these ideas we shall consider a familiar experiment, namely, that of a stone falling from a vertical height. Observation shows that if the stone falls from a position of rest, its velocity, at the end of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 seconds is

$$32, 64, 96, 128, 160,$$

feet per second respectively. In other words, the velocity of the descending stone is *increasing* from moment to moment. The above reasoning still holds good. Let  $ds$  denote the distance traversed during the infinitely short interval of time  $dt$ . The velocity of descent, at any instant, is evidently

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = V. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

Next consider the rate at which the velocity changes from one moment to another. This change is obviously the limit of the ratio  $\delta V/\delta t$ , when  $\delta t$  is zero. In other words

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = F. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

Substituting for  $V$ , we obtain the second differential coefficient

$$F = \frac{d\left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)}{dt}$$

which is more conveniently written

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = F, \left( \text{NOT } F = \frac{ds^2}{dt^2} \right). \quad (4)$$

This expression represents the rate at which the velocity is increasing at any instant of time. In this particular example the acceleration is due to the earth's gravitational force, and  $g$  is usually written instead of  $F$ .

The ratio  $d^2x/dt^2$  is called the **second differential coefficient** of  $x$  with respect to  $t$ . Just as the first differential coefficient of  $x$  with respect to  $t$  signifies a velocity, so does *the second differential coefficient of  $x$  with respect to  $t$  denote an acceleration*.

The velocity of most chemical reactions gradually *diminishes* as time goes on. Thus, the rate of transformation of cane sugar into invert sugar, after the elapse of 0, 30, 60, 90, and 130 minutes was found to be represented by the numbers<sup>1</sup>

$$15.4, 13.7, 12.4, 11.4, 9.7,$$

respectively.

If the velocity of a body increases, the velocity gained per second is called its acceleration; while if its velocity decreases, its acceleration is really a **retardation**. Mathematicians often prefix a negative sign to show that the velocity is diminishing. Thus, the rate at which the velocity of the chemical reaction changes is, with the above notation,

$$F = - \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}. \quad (5)$$

In our two illustrations, the stone had an acceleration of 32 units (feet per second) per second; the chemical reaction had an acceleration of  $-0.00073$  units per second, or of  $-0.044$  units per minute. See also page 155.

In a similar way it can be shown that the *third differential coefficient* represents the rate of change of acceleration from moment to moment; and so on for the higher differential coefficients  $d^n x/dt^n$ , which are seldom, if ever, used in practical work. A few words on notation.

---

<sup>1</sup> Multiplied by  $10^3$ .

## § 8. Notation.

It is perhaps needless to remark that the letters  $\delta$ ,  $\Delta$ ,  $d$ ,  $d^2$ , ...<sup>1</sup> do not represent algebraic magnitudes. They cannot be dissociated from the appended  $x$  and  $t$ . These letters mean nothing more than that  $x$  and  $t$  have been taken small enough to satisfy the preceding definitions.

Some mathematicians reserve the symbols  $\delta x$ ,  $\delta t$ ,  $\Delta x$ ,  $\Delta t$ , ... for small *finite* quantities;  $dx$ ,  $dt$  ... have no meaning *per se*. As a matter of fact the symbols  $dx$ ,  $dt$  ... are constantly used in place of  $\delta x$ ,  $\delta t$ , ..., or  $\Delta x$ ,  $\Delta t$ . ... In the ratio  $\frac{dx}{dt}$ ,  $\frac{d}{dt}$  is the **symbol of an operation** performed on  $x$ , as much as the symbols “ $\div$ ” or “/” denote the operation of division. In the present case *the operation has been to find the limiting value of the ratio  $\frac{\delta x}{\delta t}$  when  $\delta t$  is made smaller and smaller without limit*; but we constantly find that  $dx/dt$  is used when  $\delta x/\delta t$  is intended. For convenience,  $D$  is sometimes used as a symbol for the operation in place of  $d/dx$ . The notation we are using is due to Leibnitz;<sup>2</sup> Newton, the discoverer of this calculus, superscribed a small dot over the dependent variable for the first differential coefficient, two dots for the second, thus  $\dot{x}$ ,  $\ddot{x}$  ...

In special cases, besides  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  and  $\dot{y}$ , we may have  $\frac{d}{dx}(y)$ ,  $dy_x$ ,  $x_y$ ,  $x_1$ ,  $x'$  ... for the first differential coefficient;  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ ,  $\ddot{y}$ ,  $\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^2 y$ ,  $x_2$ ,  $x''$  ... for the second differential coefficient; and so on for the higher coefficients, or derivatives as they are sometimes called.

The operation of finding the value of the differential coefficients of any expression is called **differentiation**. The **differential calculus** is that branch of mathematics which deals with these operations.

## § 9. Functions.

If the pressure to which a gas is subject be altered, it is known that the volume of the gas changes in a proportional way. The

<sup>1</sup> For “...” read “etc.” or “and so on”.

<sup>2</sup> The history of the subject is somewhat sensational. See B. Williamson's article in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Art. “Infinitesimal Calculus”.



two magnitudes, pressure  $p$  and volume  $v$ , are interdependent. Any variation of the one is followed by a corresponding variation of the other. In mathematical language this idea is included in the word "*function*";  $v$  is said to be a function of  $p$ . The two related magnitudes are called **variables**. Any magnitude which remains invariable during a given operation is called a **constant**.

In expressing Boyle's law for perfect gases we write this idea thus :

Dependent variable =  $f$  (independent variable),

or 
$$v = f(p),$$

meaning that " $v$  is some function of  $p$ ". There is, however, no particular reason why  $p$  was chosen as the independent variable. The choice of the dependent variable depends on the conditions of the experiment alone. We could here have written

$$p = f(v)$$

just as correctly as  $v = f(p)$ . In actions involving time it is customary, though not essential, to regard the latter as the independent variable, since time changes in a most uniform and independent way. Time is the natural independent variable.

In the same way the area of a circle is a function of the radius, so is the volume of a sphere; the pressure of a gas is a function of the density; the volume of a gas is a function of the temperature; the amount of substance formed in a chemical reaction is a function of the time; the velocity of an explosion wave is a function of the density of the medium; the boiling point of a liquid is a function of the atmospheric pressure; the resistance of a wire to the passage of an electric current is a function of the thickness of the wire; the solubility of a salt is a function of the temperature, etc.

The independent variable may be denoted by  $x$ , when writing in general terms, and the dependent variable by  $y$ . The relation between these variables is variously denoted by the symbols :

$$y = f(x); y = \phi(x); y = F(x); y = \psi(x); y = f_1(x) \dots$$

Any one of these expressions means nothing more than that " $y$  is some function of  $x$ ". If  $x_1, y_1; x_2, y_2; x_3, y_3, \dots$  are corresponding values of  $x$  and  $y$ , we may have

$$y = f(x); y_1 = f(x_1); y_2 = f(x_2) \dots$$

"Let  $y = f(x)$ " means "take any equation which will enable you to calculate  $y$  when the value of  $x$  is known".

The word "function" in mathematical language thus implies

that for every value of  $x$  there is a determinate value of  $y$ . If  $v_0$  and  $p_0$  are the corresponding values of the pressure and volume of a gas in any given state,  $v$  and  $p$  their respective values in some other state, Boyle's law states that  $pv = p_0v_0$ . Hence,

$$p = \frac{p_0v_0}{v}; \text{ or, } v = \frac{p_0v_0}{p}.$$

The value of  $p$  or of  $v$  can therefore be determined for any assigned value of  $v$  or  $p$  as the case might be.

A similar rule applies for all physical changes in which two magnitudes simultaneously change their values according to some fixed law. It is quite immaterial, from our present point of view, whether or not any mathematical expression for the function  $f(x)$  is known. For instance, although the pressure of the aqueous vapour in any vessel containing water and steam is a function of the temperature, the actual *form* of the expression or function showing this relation is *not known*; but the laws connecting the volume of a gas with its temperature and pressure are *known* functions — Boyle's, and Charles' laws. The concept thus remains even though it is impossible to assign any rule for calculating the value of a function. In such cases the corresponding value of each variable can only be determined by actual observation and measurement. In other words,  $f(x)$  is a *convenient symbol to denote any mathematical expression containing  $x$* .

From pages 8 and 17, since

$$y = f(x),$$

the differential coefficient  $dy/dx$  is another function of  $x$ , say  $f'(x)$ ,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f'(x), \text{ or, } \frac{df(x)}{dx} = f'(x).$$

Similarly the second derivative,  $d^2y/dx^2$ , is another function of  $x$ , say  $f''(x)$ ,

$$\frac{df'(x)}{dx} = f''(x); \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = f''(x); \quad \frac{d^2f(x)}{dx^2} = f''(x);$$

and so on for the higher differential functions.

The above investigation may be extended to functions of three or more variables. Thus, the volume of a gas is a function of the pressure and temperature; the amount of light absorbed by a solution is a function of the thickness and concentration of the solution; and the growth of a tree depends upon the fertility of the soil, the rain, solar heat, etc. We have tacitly assumed, in our

preceding illustration, that the temperature was constant. If the pressure and temperature vary simultaneously, we write

$$v = f(p, T).$$

I must now make sure that the reader has clear ideas upon the subjects discussed in the two following articles; we will then pass directly to the "calculus" itself.

### § 10. Proportionality and the Variation Constant.

When two quantities are so related that any variation (increase or decrease) in the value of the one produces a proportional variation (increase or decrease) in the value of the other, the one quantity is said to be directly proportional to the other, or to vary as, or to vary directly as, the other. For example, the pressure of a gas is proportional to its density; the velocity of a chemical reaction is proportional to the amount of substance taking part in the reaction; and the area of a circle is proportional to the square of the radius.

On the other hand, when two quantities are so related that any increase in the value of the one leads to a proportional decrease in the value of the other, the one quantity is said to be inversely proportional to, or to vary inversely as the other. Thus, the pressure of a gas is inversely proportional to its volume, or the volume inversely proportional to the pressure; and the number of vibrations emitted per second by a sounding string varies inversely as the length of the string.

The symbol " $\propto$ " denotes variation. For  $x \propto y$ , read " $x$  varies as  $y$ "; and for  $x \propto y^{-1}$ , read " $x$  varies inversely as  $y$ ". The variation notation is nothing but abbreviated proportion. Let  $x_1, y_1; x_2, y_2; \dots$  be corresponding values of  $x$  and  $y$ . Then, if  $x$  varies as  $y$ ,

$$x_1 : y_1 = x_2 : y_2 = x_3 : y_3 = \dots;$$

or, what is the same thing,

$$\frac{x_1}{y_1} = \frac{x_2}{y_2} = \frac{x_3}{y_3} = \dots \quad (1)$$

Since the ratio of *any*<sup>1</sup> value of  $x$  to the corresponding value of  $y$

<sup>1</sup> It is perhaps needless to remark that what is true of any value is true for all. If *any* apple in a barrel is bad, *all* are bad.

is always the same, it follows at once that  $x/y$  is a constant; and  $xy$  is a constant when  $x$  varies inversely as  $y$ , as  $p$  and  $v$  in "Boyle's law". In symbols, if

$$x \propto y, x = ky; \text{ and if } x \propto \frac{1}{y}, x = \frac{k}{y}. \quad (2)$$

This result is of the greatest importance. It is utilized in nearly every formula representing a physical process.  $k$  is called the **constant of proportionality, or constant of variation**.

We can generally assign a specific meaning to the constant of proportion. For example, if we know that the mass,  $m$ , of a substance is proportional to its volume,  $v$ ,

$$\therefore m = kv.$$

If we take unit volume,  $v = 1$ ,  $k = m$ ,  $k$  will then represent the density, *i.e.*, the mass of unit volume, usually symbolized by  $\rho$ . Again, the quantity of heat,  $Q$ , which is required to warm up the temperature of a mass,  $m$ , of a substance  $\theta^\circ$  is proportional to  $m \times \theta$ . Hence,

$$Q = km\theta.$$

If we take  $m = 1$ , and  $\theta = 1^\circ$ ,  $k$  denotes the amount of heat required to raise up the temperature of unit mass of substance  $1^\circ$ . This constant, therefore, is nothing but the specific heat of the substance, usually represented by  $C$  or by  $\sigma$  in this work. Finally, the amount of heat,  $Q$ , transmitted by conduction across a plate is directly proportional to the difference of temperature,  $\theta$ , on both sides of the plate, to the area,  $s$ , of the plate, and to the time,  $t$ ;  $Q$  is also inversely proportional to the thickness,  $n$ , of the plate. Consequently,

$$Q = k \frac{s\theta t}{n}.$$

By taking a plate of unit area, and unit thickness; by keeping the difference of temperature on both sides of the plate at  $1^\circ$ ; and by considering only the amount of heat which would pass across the plate in unit time,  $Q = k$ ;  $k$  therefore denotes the amount of heat transmitted in unit time across unit area of a plate, of unit thickness when its opposite faces are kept at a temperature differing by  $1^\circ$ . That is to say,  $k$  denotes the coefficient of thermal conductivity.

The constants of variation or proportion thus furnish certain specific coefficients or numbers whose numerical values usually depend upon the nature of the substance, and the conditions under

which the experiment is performed. The well-known constants: specific gravity, electrical resistance, the gravitation constant,  $\pi$ , and the gas constant,  $R$ , are constants of proportion.

Let a gas be in a state denoted by  $p_1$ ,  $\rho_1$ , and  $T_1$ , and suppose that the gas is transformed into another state denoted by  $p_2$ ,  $\rho_2$ , and  $T_2$ . Let the change take place in two stages:—

First, let the pressure change from  $p_1$  to  $p_2$  while the temperature remains at  $T_1$ . Let  $\rho_1$ , in consequence, become  $x$ . Then, according to Boyle's law,

$$\frac{p_1}{\rho_1} = \frac{p_2}{x}; \therefore x = \frac{p_2 \rho_1}{p_1}. \quad (3)$$

Second, let the pressure remain constant at  $p_2$  while the temperature changes from  $T_1$  to  $T_2$ . Let  $x$ , in consequence, become  $\rho_2$ . Then, by Charles' law,

$$\rho_2 T_2 = x T_1. \quad (4)$$

Substituting the above value of  $x$  in this equation, we get

$$\frac{p_1}{\rho_1 T_1} = \frac{p_2}{\rho_2 T_2} = \text{constant, say, } R. \therefore \frac{p}{\rho} = RT.$$

We therefore infer that if  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$ , are variable magnitudes such that  $x \propto y$ , when  $z$  is constant, and  $x \propto z$ , when  $y$  is constant, then,  $x \propto yz$ , when  $y$  and  $z$  vary together; and conversely, it can also be shown that if  $x$  varies as  $y$ , when  $z$  is constant, and  $x$  varies inversely as  $z$ , when  $y$  is constant, then,  $x \propto y/z$  when  $y$  and  $z$  both vary.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If the volume of a gas varies inversely as the pressure and directly as the temperature, show that

$$\frac{p_1 v_1}{T_1} = \frac{p_2 v_2}{T_2}; \text{ and that } pv = RT. \quad (5)$$

(2) If the quantity of heat required to warm a substance varies directly as the mass,  $m$ , and also as the range of temperature,  $\theta$ , show that  $Q = \sigma m \theta$ .

(3) If the velocity,  $V$ , of a chemical reaction is proportional to the amount of each reacting substance present at the time  $t$ , show that

$$V = k C_1 C_2 C_3 \dots C_n,$$

where  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ , ...,  $C_n$ , respectively denote the amount of each of the  $n$  reacting substances at the time  $t$ ,  $k$  is constant.

## § 11. The Laws of Indices and Logarithms.

We all know that

$4 \times 4 = 16$ , is the *second power* of 4, written  $4^2$ ;

$4 \times 4 \times 4 = 64$ , is the *third power* of 4, written  $4^3$ ;

$4 \times 4 \times 4 \times 4 = 256$ , is the *fourth power* of 4, written  $4^4$ ;

and in general, the  $n$ th power of any number  $a$ , is defined as the continued product

$$a \times a \times a \times \dots n \text{ times} = a^n, \quad (1)$$

where  $n$  is called the **exponent**, or **index** of the number.

By actual multiplication, therefore, it follows at once that  $10^2 \times 10^3 = 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 10^{2+3} = 10^5 = 100,000$ ; or, in general symbols,

$$a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}; \text{ or, } a^x \times a^y \times a^z \times \dots = a^{x+y+z+\dots}, \quad (2)$$

a result known as the **index law**.

All numbers may be represented as different powers of one fundamental number. *E.g.*,

$$1 = 10^0; 2 = 10^{.301}; 3 = 10^{.477}; 4 = 10^{.602}; 5 = 10^{.699}; \dots$$

The power, index or exponent is called a **logarithm**, the fundamental number is called the **base** of the system of logarithms. Thus if

$$a^n = b,$$

$n$  is the logarithm of the number  $b$  to the base  $a$ , and is written

$$n = \log_a b.$$

For convenience in numerical calculations tables are generally used in which all numbers are represented as different powers of 10. The logarithm of any number taken from the table thus indicates what power of 10 the selected number represents. Thus if

$$10^3 = 1000; \text{ and } 10^{1.0413927} = 11;$$

$$\text{then } 3 = \log_{10} 1000; \text{ and } 1.0413927 = \log_{10} 11.$$

We need not use 10. Logarithms could be calculated to any other number employed as base. If we replace 10 by some other number, say, 2.71828, which we represent by  $e$ , then

$$1 = e^0; 2 = e^{0.693}; 3 = e^{1.099}; 4 = e^{1.386}; 5 = e^{1.609}; \dots$$

Logarithms to the base  $e = 2.71828$  are called **natural**, **hyperbolic**, or **Napierian logarithms**. Logarithms to the base 10 are called **Briggsian**, or **common logarithms**.

Again,

$$3 \times 5 = (10^{0.4771}) \times (10^{0.6990}) = 10^{1.1761} = 15,$$

because, from a table of common logarithms,

$$\log_{10} 3 = 0.4771; \log_{10} 5 = 0.6990; \log_{10} 15 = 1.1761.$$

Thus we have performed arithmetical multiplication by the simple addition of two logarithms. Generalizing, to multiply two or more

numbers, add the logarithms of the numbers and find the number whose logarithm is the sum of the logarithms just obtained.

EXAMPLE.—Evaluate  $4 \times 80$ ,

$$\log_{10} 4 = 0.6021$$

$$\log_{10} 80 = 1.9031$$

$$\text{Sum} = 2.5052 = \log_{10} 320.$$

This method of calculation holds good whatever numbers we employ in place of 3 and 5 or 4 and 80. Hence the use of logarithms for facilitating numerical calculations. We shall shortly show how the operations of division, involution, and evolution are as easily performed as the above multiplication.

From what has just been said it follows that

$$\frac{10^3}{10^2} = 10^{3-2} = 10^1 = 10; \text{ or generally, } \frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}. \quad (3)$$

Hence the rule : To divide two numbers, subtract the logarithm of the divisor (denominator of a fraction) from the logarithm of the dividend (numerator of a fraction) and find the number corresponding to the resulting logarithm.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Evaluate  $60 \div 3$ .

$$\log_{10} 60 = 1.7782$$

$$\log_{10} 3 = 0.4771$$

$$\text{Difference} = 1.3011 = \log_{10} 20.$$

(2) Show that  $2^{-2} = \frac{1}{4}$ ;  $10^{-2} = \frac{1}{100}$ ;  $3^3 \times 3^{-3} = 1$ .

(3) Show that  $a^x \times a^{1-x} = a$ ;  $p \div p^{\frac{1}{x}} = p^{1-\frac{1}{x}}$ ;  $a^x \div a = a^{-(1-x)}$ .

The general symbols  $a, b, \dots m, n, \dots x, y, \dots$  in any general expression may be compared with the blank spaces in a bank cheque waiting to have particular values assigned to date, amount (£ s. d.), and sponsor, before the cheque can fulfil the specific purpose for which it was designed. So must the symbols,  $a, b, \dots$  of a general equation be replaced by special numerical values before the equation can be applied to any specific process or operation.

It is very easy to miss the meaning of the so-called "properties of indices," unless the general symbols of the text-books are thoroughly tested by translation into numerical examples. The majority of students require a good bit of practice before a general expression appeals to them with full force. Here, as elsewhere, it is not merely necessary for the student to think that he "understands the principle of the thing," he must actually work out examples for himself. "In scientiis ediscendis prosunt exempla

magis quàm præcepta''<sup>1</sup> is as true to-day as it was in Newton's time. For example, how many realise why mathematicians write  $e^0 = 1$ , until some such illustration as the following has been worked out?

$$2^2 \times 2^0 = 2^{2+0} = 2^2 = 4 = 2^2 \times 1.$$

The same result, therefore, is obtained whether we multiply  $2^2$  by  $2^0$  or by 1, *i.e.*,

$$2^2 \times 2^0 = 2^2 \times 1 = 2^2 = 4.$$

Hence it is inferred that<sup>2</sup>

$$2^0 = 1, \text{ and generally that } a^0 = 1. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

EXAMPLE.—From the Table on page 628, show that

$$\log_e 3 = 1.0986; \log_e 2 = 0.6932; \log_e 1 = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

And, since

$$e \times e \times e \times \dots n \text{ times} = e^n; \dots; e \times e \times e = e^3; e \times e = e^2; e = e^1; \\ \therefore \log_e e^n = n; \dots \log_e e^3 = 3; \log_e e^2 = 2; \log_e e^1 = 1 = \log_e e. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

I am purposely using the simplest of illustrations, leaving the reader to set himself more complicated numbers. No pretence is made to rigorous demonstration. We assume that what is true in one case, is true in another. It is only by so collecting our facts one by one that we are able to build up a general idea. The beginner should always satisfy himself of the truth of any abstract principle or general formula by applying it to particular and simple cases.

*To find the relation between the logarithms of a number to different bases.* Let  $n$  be a number such that  $a^a = n$ ; or,  $a = \log_a n$ ; and  $\beta^b = n$ , or,  $b = \log_\beta n$ . Hence  $a^a = \beta^b$ . "Taking logs" to the base  $\alpha$ , we obtain

$$a = b \log_a \beta,$$

since  $\log_a a$  is unity. Substitute for  $a$  and  $b$ , and we get

$$\log_a n = \log_\beta n \cdot \log_a \beta. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

In words, the logarithm of a number to the base  $\beta$  may be obtained from the logarithm of that number to the base  $\alpha$  by multiplying it by  $1/\log_a \beta$ . For example, suppose  $\alpha = 10$  and  $\beta = e$ ,

$$\log n = \frac{\log_{10} n}{\log_{10} e}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

<sup>1</sup> Which may be rendered: "In learning we profit more by example than by precept".

<sup>2</sup> Some mathematicians define  $a^n$  as  $1 \times a \times a \times a \dots n$  times;  $a^3 = 1 \times a \times a \times a$ ;  $a^2 = 1 \times a \times a$ ;  $a^1 = 1 \times a$ ; and  $a^0$  as  $1 \times a$  no times, that is unity itself. If so, then I suppose that  $0^0$  must mean  $1 \times 0$  no times, *i.e.*, 1; and  $1/0^0$  must mean  $1/(1 \times 0$  no times), *i.e.*, unity.



where the subscript in  $\log_n$  is omitted. It is a common practice to omit the subscript of the "log" when there is no danger of ambiguity. Hence, since  $\log_{10} 2.71828 = 0.4343$ , and  $\log_{10} 10 = 2.3026$ , where 2.71828 is the nominal value of  $e$  (page 25) :—

**To pass from natural to common logarithms**

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{Common log} &= \text{natural log} \times 0.4343 \\ \log_{10} a &= \log_e a \times 0.4343 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (9)$$

**To pass from common to natural logarithms**

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{Natural log} &= \text{common log} \times 2.3026 \\ \log_e a &= \log_{10} a \times 2.3026 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (10)$$

The number 0.4343 is called the **modulus** of the Briggsian or common system of logarithms. When required it is written  $M$  or  $\mu$ . It is sufficient to remember that the natural logarithm of a number is 2.3026 times as great as the common logarithm.

By actual multiplication show that

$$(100)^3 = (10^2)^3 = 10^{2 \times 3} = 10^6,$$

and hence, to raise a number to any power, multiply the logarithm of the number by the index of the power and find the number corresponding to the resulting logarithm.

$$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}. \quad (11)$$

**EXAMPLE.**—Evaluate  $5^2$ .

$$5^2 = (5)^2 = (10^{0.6990})^2 = 10^{1.3980} = 25,$$

since reference to a table of common logarithms shows that

$$\log_{10} 5 = 0.6990; \log_{10} 25 = 1.3980.$$

From the index law, above

$$10^{\frac{1}{2}} \times 10^{\frac{1}{2}} = 10^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}} = 10^1 = 10.$$

That is to say,  $10^{\frac{1}{2}}$  multiplied by itself gives 10. But this is the definition of the square root of 10.

$$\therefore (\sqrt{10})^2 = \sqrt{10} \times \sqrt{10} = 10^{\frac{1}{2}} \times 10^{\frac{1}{2}} = 10.$$

A **fractional index**, therefore, represents a root of the particular number affected with that exponent. Similarly,

$$\sqrt[3]{8} = 8^{\frac{1}{3}}, \text{ because } \sqrt[3]{8} \times \sqrt[3]{8} \times \sqrt[3]{8} = 8^{\frac{1}{3}} \times 8^{\frac{1}{3}} \times 8^{\frac{1}{3}} = 8.$$

Generalizing this idea, the  $n$ th root of any number  $a$ , is

$$\sqrt[n]{a} = a^{\frac{1}{n}}. \quad (12)$$

To extract the root of any number, divide the logarithm of

the number by the index of the required root and find the number corresponding to the resulting logarithm.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Evaluate  $\sqrt[3]{8}$  and  $\sqrt[7]{93}$ .

$\sqrt[3]{8} = (8)^{\frac{1}{3}} = (10^{0.9031})^{\frac{1}{3}} = 10^{0.3010} = 2$ ;  $\sqrt[7]{93} = (93)^{\frac{1}{7}} = (10^{1.9685})^{\frac{1}{7}} = 10^{0.2812} = 1.91$ , since, from a table of common logarithms,

$$\log_{10} 2 = 0.3010; \log_{10} 8 = 0.9031; \log_{10} 1.91 = 0.2812; \log_{10} 93 = 1.9685.$$

(2) Perhaps this will amuse the reader some idle moment. Given the obvious facts  $\log \frac{1}{2} = \log \frac{1}{2}$ , and  $3 > 2$ ; combining the two statements we get  $3 \log \frac{1}{2} > 2 \log \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\therefore \log(\frac{1}{2})^3 > \log(\frac{1}{2})^2$ ;  $\therefore (\frac{1}{2})^3 > (\frac{1}{2})^2$ ;  $\therefore \frac{1}{8} > \frac{1}{4}$ ;  $\therefore 1$  is greater than 2. Where is the fallacy?

The results of logarithmic calculations are seldom absolutely correct because we employ approximate values of the logarithms of the particular numbers concerned. Instead of using logarithms to four decimal places we could, if stupid enough, use logarithms accurate to sixty-four decimal places. But the discussion of this question is reserved for another chapter. If the student has any difficulty with logarithms, after this, he had better buy F. G. Taylor's *An Introduction to the Practical Use of Logarithms*, London, 1901.

## § 12. Differentiation, and its Uses.

The differential calculus is not directly concerned with the establishment of any relation between the quantities themselves, but rather with the momentary state of the phenomenon. This momentary state is symbolised by the differential coefficient, which thus conveys to the mind a perfectly clear and definite conception altogether apart from any numerical or practical application. I suppose the proper place to recapitulate the uses of the differential calculus would be somewhere near the end of this book, for only there can the reader hope to have his faith displaced by the certainty of demonstrated facts. Nevertheless, I shall here illustrate the subject by stating three problems which the differential calculus helps us to solve.

In order to describe the whole history of any phenomenon it is necessary to find the law which describes the relation between the various agents taking part in the change as well as the law describing the momentary states of the phenomenon. There is a close connection between the two. The one is conditioned by the other. Starting with the complete law it is possible to calculate the momentary states and conversely.

*I. The calculation of the momentary states from the complete law.* Before the instantaneous rate of change,  $dy/dx$ , can be determined it is necessary to know the law, or form of the function connecting the varying quantities one with another. For instance, Galileo found by actual measurement that a stone falling vertically downwards from a position of rest travels a distance of  $s = \frac{1}{2}gt^2$  feet in  $t$  seconds. Differentiation of this, as we shall see very shortly, furnishes the actual velocity of the stone at any instant of time,  $V = gt$ . In the same manner, Newton's law of inverse squares follows from Kepler's third law; and Ampère's law, from the observed effect of one part of an electric circuit upon another.

*II. The calculation of the complete law from the momentary states.* It is sometimes possible to get an idea of the relations between the forces at work in any given phenomenon from the actual measurements themselves, but more frequently, a less direct path must be followed. The investigator makes the most plausible guess about the momentary state of the phenomenon at his command, and dresses it up in mathematical symbols. Subsequent progress is purely an affair of mathematical computation based upon the differential calculus. Successful guessing depends upon the astuteness of the investigator. This mode of attack is finally justified by a comparison of the experimental data with the hypothesis dressed up in mathematical symbols, and thus

The golden guess  
Is morning star to the full round of truth.

Fresnel's law of double refraction, Wilhelmy's law of mass action, and Newton's law of heat radiation may have been established in this way. The subtlety and beauty of this branch of the calculus will not appear until the methods of integration have been discussed.

*III. The eduction of a generalization from particular cases.* A natural law, deduced directly from observation or measurement, can only be applied to particular cases because it is necessarily affected by the accidental circumstances associated with the conditions under which the measurements were made. Differentiation will eliminate the accidental features so that the essential circumstances, common to all the members of a certain class of phenomena, alone remain. Let us take one of the simplest of illustrations, a train travelling with the constant velocity of thirty miles an hour. Hence,  $V = 30$ . From what we have already said, it will be clear

that the rate of change of velocity, at any moment, is zero. Otherwise expressed,  $dV/dt = 0$ . The former equation,  $V = 30$ , is only true of the motion of one particular object, whereas  $dV/dt = 0$ , is true of the motion of all bodies travelling with a constant velocity. In this sense one reliable observation might give rise to a general law.

The mechanical operations of finding the differential coefficient of one variable with respect to another in any expression are no more difficult than ordinary algebraic processes. Before describing the practical methods of differentiation it will be instructive to study a geometrical illustration of the process.

Let  $x$  (Fig. 5) be the side of a square, and let there be an increment<sup>1</sup> in the area of the square due to an increase of  $h$  in the variable  $x$ .

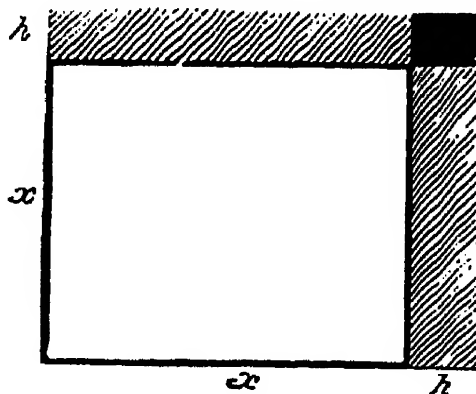


FIG. 5.

The original area of the square  $= x^2$ .

The new area  $= (x + h)^2 = x^2 + 2xh + h^2$ .

The increment in the area  $= (x + h)^2 - x^2 = 2xh + h^2$ . . (3)

This equation is true, whatever value be given to  $h$ . The smaller the increment  $h$  the less does the value of  $h^2$  become. If this increment  $h$  ultimately become indefinitely small, then  $h^2$ , being of a very small order of magnitude, may be neglected. For example, if when  $x = 1$ ,

$h = 1$ , increment in area  $= 2 + 1$ ;

$h = \frac{1}{10}$ , " "  $= 0.2 + \frac{1}{100}$ ;

$h = \frac{1}{1000}$ , " "  $= 0.002 + \frac{1}{1,000,000}$ , etc.

If, therefore,  $dy$  denotes the infinitely small increment in the area,  $y$ , of the square corresponding to an infinitely small increment  $dx$  in two adjoining sides,  $x$ , then, in the language of differentials,

Increment  $y = 2xh$ , becomes,  $dy = 2x \cdot dx$ . . (4)

The same result can be deduced by means of limiting ratios. For instance, consider the ratio of any increment in the area,  $y$ , to any increment in the length of a side of the square,  $x$ .

<sup>1</sup> When any quantity is increased, the quantity by which it is increased is called its *increment*, abbreviated "incr."; a decrement is a negative increment.

$$\frac{\text{Increment } y}{h} = \frac{\text{Incr. } y}{\text{Incr. } x} = \frac{\delta y}{\delta x} = \frac{2xh + h^2}{h} = 2x + h,$$

and when the value of  $h$  is zero

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{\delta y}{\delta x} = 2x. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

To measure the rate of change of any two variables, we fix upon one variable as the standard of reference. When  $x$  is the standard of reference for the rate of change of the variable  $y$ , we call  $dy/dx$  the  $x$ -rate of  $y$ . In practical work, the rate of change of time,  $t$ , is the most common standard of reference. If desired we can interpret (4) or (5) to mean

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2x \frac{dx}{dt},$$

In words, the rate at which  $y$  changes is  $2x$  times the rate at which  $x$  changes.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show, by similar reasoning to the above, that if the three adjoining sides,  $x$ , of a cube receive an increment  $h$ , then  $\text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{\delta y}{\delta x} = 3x^2$ .

(2) Prove that if the radius,  $r$ , of a circle be increased by an amount  $h$ , the increment in the area of the circle will be  $(2rh + h^2)\pi$ . Show that the limiting ratio,  $dy/dx$ , in this case is  $2\pi r$ . Given, area of circle  $= \pi r^2$ .

The former method of differentiation is known as “Leibnitz’s method of differentials,” the latter, “Newton’s method of limits”. It cannot be denied that while Newton’s method is rigorous, exact, and satisfying, Leibnitz’s at once raises the question:

### § 13. Is Differentiation a Method of Approximation only?

The method of differentiation might at first sight be regarded as a method of approximation, for these small quantities appear to be rejected only because this *may* be done without committing any sensible error. For this reason, in its early days, the calculus was subject to much opposition on metaphysical grounds. Bishop Berkeley<sup>1</sup> called these limiting ratios “the ghosts of departed quantities”. A little consideration, however, will show that these small quantities *must* be rejected in order that no error may be committed in the calculation. The process of elimination is essential to the operation.

---

<sup>1</sup> G. Berkeley, *Collected Works*, Oxford, 3, 44, 1901.

There has been a good bit of tinkering, lately, at the foundations of the calculus as well as other branches of mathematics, but we cannot get much deeper than this : assuming that the quantities under investigation are continuous, and noting that the smaller the differentials the closer the approximation to absolute accuracy, our reason is satisfied to reject the differentials, when they become so small as to be no longer perceptible to our senses. The psychological process that gives rise to this train of thought leads to the inevitable conclusion that this mode of representing the process is the true one. Moreover, if this be any argument, the validity of the reasoning is justified by its results.

The following remarks on this question are freely translated from Carnot's *Réflexions sur la Métaphysique du Calcul Infinitésimal*.<sup>1</sup> "The essential merit, the sublimity, one may say, of the infinitesimal method lies in the fact that it is as easily performed as a simple method of approximation, and as accurate as the results of an ordinary calculation. This immense advantage would be lost, or at any rate greatly diminished, if, under the pretence of obtaining a greater degree of accuracy throughout the whole process, we were to substitute for the simple method given by Leibnitz one less convenient and less in accord with the probable course of the natural event. If this method is accurate in its results, as no one doubts at this day ; if we always have recourse to it in difficult questions, what need is there to supplant it by complicated and indirect means ? Why content ourselves with founding it on inductions and analogies with the results furnished by other means when it can be demonstrated directly and generally, more easily, perhaps, than any of these very methods ? The objections which have been raised against it are based on the false supposition that the errors made by neglecting infinitesimally small quantities during the actual calculation are still to be found in the result of the calculation, however small they may be. Now this is not the case. The error is of necessity removed from the result by elimination. It is indeed a strange thing that every one did not from the very first realise the true character of infinitesimal quantities, and see that a conclusive answer to all objections lies in this indispensable process of elimination."

The beginner will have noticed that, unlike algebra and arith-

---

<sup>1</sup> Paris, 215, 1813.

metic, higher mathematics postulates that number is capable of gradual growth. The differential calculus is concerned with the rate at which quantities increase or diminish. There are three modes of viewing this growth :—

*I. Leibnitz's "method of infinitesimals or differentials"*. According to this, a quantity is supposed to pass from one degree of magnitude to another by the continual addition of infinitely small parts, called *infinitesimals* or *differentials*. Infinitesimals may have different orders of magnitude. Thus, the product  $dx.dy$  is an infinitesimal of the second order, infinitely small in comparison with the product  $y.dx$ , or  $x.dy$ .

In a preceding section it was shown that when each of two sides of a square receives a small increment  $h$ , the corresponding increment in the area is  $2xh + h^2$ . When  $h$  is made indefinitely small and equal to say  $dx$ , then  $(dx)^2$  is vanishingly small in comparison with  $x.dx$ . Hence,

$$dy = 2x . dx.$$

In calculations involving quantities which are ultimately made to approach the limit zero, the higher orders of infinitesimals may be rejected at any stage of the process. Only the lowest orders of infinitesimals are, as a rule, retained.

*II. Newton's "method of rates or fluxions"*. Here, the velocity or rate with which the quantity is generated is employed. The measure of this velocity is called a *fluxion*. A fluxion, written  $\dot{x}$ ,  $\dot{y}$ , ..., is equivalent to our  $dx/dt$ ,  $dy/dt$ , ...

These two methods are modifications of one idea. It is all a question of notation or definition. While Leibnitz referred the rate of change of a dependent variable  $y$ , to an independent variable  $x$ , Newton referred each variable to "uniformly flowing" time. Leibnitz assumed that when  $x$  receives an increment  $dx$ ,  $y$  is increased by an amount  $dy$ . Newton conceived these changes to occupy a certain time  $dt$ , so that  $y$  increases with a velocity  $\dot{y}$ , as  $x$  increases with a velocity  $\dot{x}$ . This relation may be written symbolically,

$$dx = \dot{x}dt, dy = \dot{y}dt; \therefore \frac{\dot{y}}{\dot{x}} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{dy}{dx}.$$

The method of fluxions is not in general use, perhaps because

of its more abstruse character. It is occasionally employed in mechanics.

*III. Newton's "method of limits".* This has been set forth in § 2. The ultimate limiting ratio is considered as a fixed quantity to which the ratio of the two variables can be made to approximate as closely as we please. "The limiting ratio," says Carnot, "is neither more nor less difficult to define than an infinitely small quantity.... To proceed rigorously by the method of limits it is necessary to lay down the definition of a limiting ratio. But this is the definition, or rather, this ought to be the definition, of an infinitely small quantity." "The difference between the method of infinitesimals and that of limits (when exclusively adopted) is, that in the latter it is usual to retain evanescent quantities of higher orders until the end of the calculation and then neglect them. On the other hand, such quantities are neglected from the commencement in the infinitesimal method from the conviction that they cannot affect the final result, as they must disappear when we proceed to the limit" (*Encyc. Brit.*). It follows, therefore, that the psychological process of reducing quantities down to their limiting ratios is equivalent to the rejection of terms involving the higher orders of infinitesimals. These operations have been indicated side by side on pages 31 and 32.

The methods of limits and of infinitesimals are employed indiscriminately in this work, according as the one or the other appeared the more instructive or convenient. As a rule, it is easier to represent a process mathematically by the method of infinitesimals. The determination of the limiting ratio frequently involves more complicated operations than is required by Leibnitz's method.

## § 14. The Differentiation of Algebraic Functions.

We may now take up the routine processes of differentiation. It is convenient to study the different types of functions—algebraic, logarithmic, exponential, and trigonometrical—separately. An **algebraic function** of  $x$  is an expression containing terms which involve only the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, evolution (root extraction), and involution. For instance,  $x^2y + \sqrt[3]{x} + y^3 - ax = 1$  is an algebraic function. Functions that cannot be so expressed are termed **transcendental**



**functions.** Thus,  $\sin x = y$ ,  $\log x = y$ ,  $e^x = y$  are transcendental functions.

On pages 31 and 32 a method was described for finding the differential coefficient of  $y = x^2$ , by the following series of operations:—(1) Give an arbitrary increment  $h$  to  $x$  in the original function; (2) Subtract the original function  $x^2$  from the new value of  $(x + h)^2$  found in (1); (3) Divide the result of (2) by  $h$  the increment of  $x$ ; and (4) Find the limiting value of this ratio when  $h = 0$ .

This procedure must be carefully noted; it lies at the basis of all processes of differentiation. In this way it can be shown that if  $y = x^2$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$ ; if  $y = x^3$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2$ ; if  $y = x^4$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 4x^3$ , etc.

By actual multiplication we find that

$$\begin{aligned}(x + h)^2 &= (x + h)(x + h) = x^2 + 2hx + h^2; \\(x + h)^3 &= (x + h)^2(x + h) = x^3 + 3hx^2 + 3h^2x + h^3; \\&\dots\dots\dots\end{aligned}$$

Continuing this process as far as we please, we shall find that

$$(x + h)^n = x^n + \frac{n}{1}x^{n-1}h + \frac{n(n-1)}{1 \cdot 2}x^{n-2}h^2 + \dots + \frac{n}{1}xh^{n-1} + h^n. \quad (1)$$

This result, known as the **binomial theorem**, enables us to raise any expression of the type  $x + h$  to any power of  $n$  (where  $n$  is positive integer, i.e., a positive whole number, not a fraction) without going through the actual process of successive multiplication. A similar rule holds for  $(x - h)^n$ . Now try if this is so by substituting  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , and  $5$  successively in (1), and comparing with the results obtained by actual multiplication.

It is convenient to notice that the several sets of binomial coefficients obey the law indicated in the following scheme, as  $n$  increases from 0, 1, 2, 3, . . .

$$\begin{array}{l} (a + b)^0 = 1 \\ (a + b)^1 = 1 \quad 1 \\ (a + b)^2 = 1 \quad 2 \quad 1 \\ (a + b)^3 = 1 \quad 3 \quad 3 \quad 1 \\ (a + b)^4 = 1 \quad 4 \quad 6 \quad 4 \quad 1 \\ (a + b)^5 = 1 \quad 5 \quad 10 \quad 10 \quad 5 \quad 1 \\ (a + b)^6 = 1 \quad 6 \quad 15 \quad 20 \quad 15 \quad 6 \quad 1 \end{array}$$

*I. The differential coefficient of any power of a variable. To find the differential coefficient of*

$$y = x^n.$$

Let each side of this expression receive a small increment so that  $y$  becomes  $y + h'$  when  $x$  becomes  $x + h$  ;

$$\therefore (y + h') - y = \text{Incr. } y = (x + h)^n - x^n.$$

From the binomial theorem, (1) above,

$$\text{Incr. } y = nx^{n-1}h + \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)x^{n-2}h^2 + \dots$$

Divide by increment  $x$ , namely  $h$ .

$$\frac{\text{Incr. } y}{h} = \frac{\text{Incr. } y}{\text{Incr. } x} = nx^{n-1} + \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)x^{n-2}h + \dots$$

Hence when  $h$  is made zero

$$\text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{\text{Incr. } y}{\text{Incr. } x} = \text{Limit}_{h=0} \frac{(x+h)^n - x^n}{h} = nx^{n-1}.$$

That is to say

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d(x^n)}{dx} = nx^{n-1}. \quad (2)$$

Hence the rule :—The differential coefficient of any power of  $x$  is obtained by diminishing the index by unity and multiplying the power of  $x$  so obtained by the original exponent (or index).

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y = x^6$  ; show that  $dy/dx = 6x^5$ . This means that  $y$  changes  $6x^5$  times as fast as  $x$ . If  $x = 1$ ,  $y$  increases 6 times as fast as  $x$  ; if  $x = -2$ ,  $y$  decreases  $-6 \times 32 = -192$  times as fast as  $x$ .

(2) If  $y = x^{20}$  ; show that  $dy/dx = 20x^{19}$ .

(3) If  $y = x^5$  ; show that  $dy/dx = 5x^4$ .

(4) If  $y = x^3$  ; show that  $dy/dx = 300$ , when  $x = 10$ .

Later on we deduce the binomial theorem by differentiation. The student may think we have worked in a vicious circle. This need not be. The differential coefficient of  $x^n$  may be established without assuming the binomial theorem. For instance, let

$$y = x^n,$$

and suppose that when  $x$  becomes  $x_1 = x + h$ ,  $y$  becomes  $y_1$  ; then we have

$$\frac{y_1 - y}{x_1 - x} = \frac{x_1^n - x^n}{x_1 - x} = x_1^{n-1} + xx_1^{n-2} + \dots + x^{n-1},$$

by division. But  $\text{Lt}_{h=0} x_1 = x$  ;

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = x^{n-1} + x^{n-1} + \dots \text{ to } n \text{ terms} = nx^{n-1}.$$

II. The differential coefficient of the sum or difference of any number of functions. Let  $u, v, w \dots$  be functions of  $x$  ;  $y$  their

sum. Let  $u_1, v_1, w_1, \dots, y_1$ , be the respective values of these functions when  $x$  is changed to  $x + h$ , then

$$y = u + v + w + \dots; y_1 = u_1 + v_1 + w_1 + \dots$$

$\therefore y_1 - y = (u_1 - u) + (v_1 - v) + (w_1 - w) + \dots$ ,  
by subtraction; dividing by  $h$ ,

$$\frac{\text{Incr. } y}{h} = \frac{\text{Incr. } u}{h} + \frac{\text{Incr. } v}{h} + \frac{\text{Incr. } w}{h} + \dots,$$

or, 
$$\text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{\text{Incr. } y}{\text{Incr. } x} = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{du}{dx} + \frac{dv}{dx} + \frac{dw}{dx} + \dots \quad (3)$$

If some of the symbols have a minus, instead of a plus, sign a corresponding result is obtained. For instance, if

$$y = u - v - w - \dots,$$

then 
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{du}{dx} - \frac{dv}{dx} - \frac{dw}{dx} - \dots \quad (4)$$

Hence the rule:—The differential coefficient of the sum or difference of any number of functions is equal to the sum or difference of the differential coefficients of the several functions.

III. *The differential coefficient of the product of a variable and a constant quantity.* Let

$$y = ax^n;$$

$$\text{Incr. } y = a(x+h)^n - ax^n = anx^{n-1}h + \frac{an(n-1)}{2!}x^{n-2}h^2 + \dots$$

Therefore

$$\text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{\text{Incr. } y}{h} = \frac{dy}{dx} = anx^{n-1} \quad (5)$$

Hence the rule:—The differential coefficient of the product of a variable quantity and a constant is equal to the constant multiplied by the differential coefficient of the variable.

IV. *The differential coefficient of any constant term is zero.* Since a constant term is essentially a quantity that does not vary, if  $y$  be a constant, say, equal to  $a$ ; then  $da/dt$  must be absolute zero. Let

$$y = (x^n + a);$$

then, following the old track,

$$\text{Incr. } y = (x+h)^n + a - (x^n + a);$$

$$\therefore \text{Incr. } y = \frac{n}{1}x^{n-1}h + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}x^{n-2}h^2 + \dots$$

$$\therefore \text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{\text{Incr. } y}{\text{Incr. } x} = \frac{dy}{dx} = nx^{n-1}, \quad (6)$$

where the constant term has disappeared.

For the sake of brevity we have written  $1! = 1$ ;  $2! = 1 \times 2$ ;  $3! = 1 \times 2 \times 3$ ;  $n! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times (n-2) \times (n-1) \times n$ . Strictly speaking,  $0!$  has no meaning; mathematicians, however, find it convenient to make  $0! = 1$ . This notation is due to Kramp. " $n!$ " is read "factorial  $n$ ".

V. *The differential coefficient of a polynomial<sup>1</sup> raised to any power.* Let

$$y = (ax + x^2)^n.$$

If we regard the expression in brackets as one variable raised to the power of  $n$ , we get

$$dy = n(ax + x^2)^{n-1} d(ax + x^2).$$

Differentiating the last term, we get

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = n(ax + x^2)^{n-1}(a + 2x). \quad (7)$$

Hence the rule:—The differential coefficient of a polynomial raised to any power is obtained by diminishing the exponent of the power by unity and multiplying the expression so obtained by the differential coefficient of the polynomial and the original exponent.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y = x - 2x^2$ , show that  $dy/dx = 1 - 4x$ .

(2) If  $y = (1 - x^2)^3$ , show that  $dy/dx = -6x(1 - x^2)^2$ . This means that  $y$  changes at the rate of  $-6x(1 - x^2)^2$  for unit change of  $x$ ; in other words,  $y$  changes  $-6x(1 - x^2)^2$  times as fast as  $x$ .

(3) If the distance,  $s$ , traversed by a falling body at the time  $t$ , is given by the expression  $s = \frac{1}{2}gt^2$ , show that the body will be falling with a velocity  $ds/dt = gt$ , at the time  $t$ .

(4) Young's formula for the relation between the vapour pressure  $p$  and the temperature  $\theta$  of isopentane at constant volume is,  $p = b\theta - a$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are empirical constants. Hence show that the ratio of the change of pressure with temperature is constant and equal to  $b$ .

(5) Mendeléeff's formula for the superficial tension  $s$  of a perfect liquid at any temperature  $\theta$  is,  $s = a - b\theta$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants. Hence show that rate of change of  $s$  with  $\theta$  is constant. Ansr.  $-b$ .

(6) One of Callendar's formulæ for the variation of the electrical resistance  $R$  of a platinum wire with temperature  $\theta$  is,  $R = R_0(1 + \alpha\theta + \beta\theta^2)$ , where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  and  $R_0$  are constants. Find the increase in the resistance of the wire for a small rise of temperature. Ansr.  $dR = R_0(\alpha + 2\beta\theta)d\theta$ .

(7) The volume of a gram of water is nearly  $1 + a(\theta - 4)^2$  ccs. where  $\theta$  denotes the temperature, and  $a$  is a constant very nearly equal to  $8.38 \times 10^{-6}$ . Show that the coefficient of cubical expansion of water at any temperature  $\theta$  is equal to  $2a(\theta - 4)$ . Hence show that the coefficients of cubical expansion of water at  $0^\circ$  and  $10^\circ$  are respectively  $-67.04 \times 10^{-6}$ , and  $+100.56 \times 10^{-6}$ .

---

<sup>1</sup> A *polynomial* is an expression containing two or more terms connected by plus or minus signs. Thus,  $a + bx$ ;  $ax + by + z$ , etc. A *binomial* contains two such terms.

(8) A piston slides freely in a circular cylinder (diameter 6 in.). At what rate is the piston moving when steam is admitted into the cylinder at the rate of 11 cubic feet per second? Given, volume of a cylinder  $= \pi r^2 h$ . Hint. Let  $v$  denote the volume,  $x$  the height of the piston at any moment. Hence,  $v = \pi(\frac{1}{2})^2 x$ ;  $\therefore dv = \pi(\frac{1}{2})^2 dx$ . But we require the value of  $dx/dt$ . Divide the last expression through with  $dt$ , let  $\pi = 2\frac{1}{2}$ ,

$$\therefore \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{dv}{dt} \times 16 \times \frac{7}{22} = 56 \text{ ft. per sec.}$$

(9) If the quantity of heat,  $Q$ , necessary to raise the temperature of a gram of solid from  $0^\circ$  to  $\theta^\circ$  is represented by  $Q = a\theta + b\theta^2 + c\theta^3$  (where  $a, b, c$ , are constants), what is the specific heat of the substance at  $\theta^\circ$ . Hint. Compare the meaning of  $dQ/d\theta$  with your definition of specific heat. Ansr.  $a + 2b\theta + 3c\theta^2$ .

(10) If the diameter of a spherical soap bubble increases uniformly at the rate of 0.1 centimetre per second, show that the capacity is increasing at the rate of  $0.2\pi$  centimetre per second when the diameter becomes 2 centimetres. Given, volume of a sphere,  $v = \frac{1}{6}\pi D^3$ ,

$$\therefore dv = \frac{1}{2}\pi D^2 dD, \therefore dv/dt = \frac{1}{2} \times \pi \times 2^2 \times 0.1 = 0.2\pi.$$

(11) The water reservoir of a town has the form of an inverted conical frustum with sides inclined at an angle of  $45^\circ$  and the radius of the smaller base 100 ft. If when the water is 20 ft. deep the depth of the water is decreasing at the rate of 5 ft. a day, show that the town is being supplied with

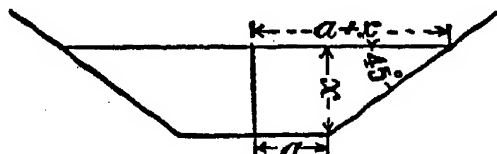


FIG. 6.

water at the rate of  $72,000\pi$  cubic ft. per diem. Given, frustum,  $y$ , of cone  $= \frac{1}{3}\pi \times \text{height} \times (a^2 + ab + b^2)$ , where  $a$ , and  $b$  are the radii of the circular ends. Hint. Let  $a$  (Fig. 6) denote the radius of the smaller end,  $x$  the depth of the water. First show that  $a + x$  is the radius of the reservoir at the

surface of the water. Hence,  $y = \frac{1}{3}\pi\{(a+x)^2 + a(a+x) + a^2\}x$ ;  $\therefore dy = \pi(a^2 + 2ax + x^2)dx$ , etc.

(12) If  $a, b, c$  are constants, show that  $dy/dx = b$ , when  $x=0$ , given that  $y = a + bx + cx^2$ . Hint. Substitute  $x=0$  after the differentiation.

(13) The area of a circular plate of metal is expanding by heat. When the radius passes through the value 2 cm. it is increasing at the rate of 0.01 cm. per second. How fast is the area changing? Ansr.  $0.04\pi$  sq. cm. per second. Hint. Radius  $= x$  cm.; area  $= y$  sq. cm.;  $\therefore$  area of circle  $= y = \pi x^2$ . Hence,  $dy/dt = 2\pi x \cdot dx/dt$ ; when  $x=2$ ,  $dx/dt = 0.01$ , etc.

VI. The differential coefficient of the product of any number of functions. Let

$$y = uv$$

where  $u$  and  $v$  are functions of  $x$ . When  $x$  becomes  $x+h$ , let  $u, v$ , and  $y$  become  $u_1, v_1$ , and  $y_1$ . Then  $y_1 = u_1 v_1$ ;  $y_1 - y = u_1 v_1 - uv$ , add and subtract  $uv_1$  from the second member of this last equation, and transpose the terms so that

$$y_1 - y = u(v_1 - v) + v_1(u_1 - u).$$

In the language of differentials we may write this relation

$$dy = d(uv) = u dv + v du. \quad (8)$$

Or, divide by  $\delta x$ , and find the limit when  $\delta x = 0$ , thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Lt}_{\delta x=0} \frac{\delta y}{\delta x} &= u \frac{dv}{dx} + v \frac{du}{dx}, \\ \therefore \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{d(uv)}{dx} = u \frac{dv}{dx} + v \frac{du}{dx}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Similarly, by taking the product of three functions, say,

$$y = uvw.$$

Let  $vw = z$ ; then  $y = uz$ . From (8), therefore

$$dy = z du + u dz = vw du + u d(vw);$$

$$\therefore dy = vw du + u(w dv + v dw);$$

$$\therefore dy = vw du + uw dv + uv dw, \quad (10)$$

in differential notation. To pass into differential coefficients, divide by  $dx$ . This reasoning may obviously be extended to the product of a greater number of functions.

Hence the rule:—The differential coefficient of any number of functions is obtained by multiplying the differential coefficient of each separate function by the product of all the remaining functions and then adding up the results.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If the volume,  $v$ , of gas enclosed in a vessel at a pressure  $p$ , be compressed or expanded without loss of heat, it is known that the relation between the pressure and volume is  $pv^\gamma = \text{constant}$ ;  $\gamma$  is also a constant. Hence, prove that for small changes of pressure,  $dv/dp = -v/\gamma p$ .

(2) If  $y = (x-1)(x-2)(x-3)$ ,  $dy/dx = 3x^2 - 12x + 11$ .

(3) If  $y = x^2(1+ax^2)(1-ax^2)$ ,  $dy/dx = 2x - 6a^2x^5$ .

(4) Show geometrically that the differential of a small increment in the capacity of a rectangular solid figure whose unequal sides are  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$  is denoted by the expression  $xydz + yzdx + xzdy$ . Hence, show that if an ingot of gold expands uniformly in its linear dimensions at the rate of 0.001 units per second, its volume,  $v$ , is increasing at the rate of  $dv/dt = 0.110$  units per second, when the dimensions of the ingot are 4 by 5 by 10 units.

The process may be illustrated by a geometrical figure similar to that of page 31. In the

rectangle (Fig. 7) let the unequal sides be represented by  $x$  and  $y$ . Let  $x$  and  $y$  be increased by their differentials  $dx$  and  $dy$ . Then the increment of the area will be represented by the shaded parts, which are in turn represented by

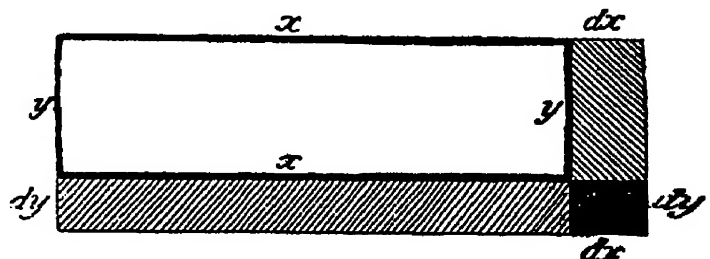


FIG. 7.

the areas of the parallelograms  $xdy + ydx + dxdy$ , but at the limit  $dx.dy$  vanishes, as previously shown.

VII. *The differential coefficient of a fraction, or quotient.* Let

$$y = \frac{u}{v},$$

where  $u$  and  $v$  are functions of  $x$ . Hence,  $u = vy$ , and from (9)

$$du = vdy + ydv; \therefore du = v d\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) + \frac{u}{v} dv,$$

on replacing  $y$  by its value  $u/v$ . Hence, on solving,

$$d\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) = \frac{du - \frac{u}{v} dv}{v}; \therefore d\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) = \frac{vdu - u dv}{v^2}, \quad (11)$$

in the language of differentials; or, dividing through with  $dx$  we obtain, in the language of differential coefficients,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{v \frac{du}{dx} - u \frac{dv}{dx}}{v^2}. \quad (12)$$

In words, to find the differential coefficient of a fraction or of a quotient, subtract the product of the numerator into the differential coefficient of the denominator, from the product of the denominator into the differential coefficient of the numerator, and divide by the square of the denominator.

A special case occurs when the numerator of the fraction  $a/x$  is a constant,  $a$ , then

$$y = \frac{a}{x}; \quad dy = \frac{x \cdot da - a \cdot dx}{x^2} = \frac{-a \cdot dx}{x^2}; \therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{a}{x^2}. \quad (13)$$

In words, the differential coefficient of a fraction  $a/x$  whose numerator is constant is minus the constant divided by the square of the denominator.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y = x/(1 - x)$ ; show that  $dy/dx = 1/(1 - x)^2$ .

(2) If  $x$  denotes the number of gram molecules of a substance A transformed by a reaction with another substance B, at the time  $t$ , experiment shows that  $x/(a - x) = akt$ , when  $k$  is constant. Hence, show that the velocity of the reaction is proportional to the amounts of A and B present at the time  $t$ . Let  $a$  denote the number of gram molecules of A, and of B present at the beginning of the reaction. Hint. Show that the velocity of the reaction is equal to  $k(a - x)^2$ , and interpret the result.

(3) If  $y = (1 + x^2)/(1 - x^2)$ , show that  $dy/dx = 4x/(1 - x^2)^2$ .

(4) If  $y = a/x^n$ , show that  $dy/dx = -na/x^{n+1}$ .

(5) The refractive index,  $\mu$ , of a ray of light of wave-length  $\lambda$  is, according to Christoffel's dispersion formula

$$\mu = \mu_0 \sqrt{2} / \{ \sqrt{1 + \lambda_0/\lambda} + \sqrt{1 - \lambda_0/\lambda} \},$$

where  $\mu_0$  and  $\lambda_0$  are constants. Find the change in the refractive index corresponding to a small change in the wave-length of the light. Ansr.  $d\mu/d\lambda = -\mu^3 \lambda_0^2 / \{ 2\lambda^3 \mu_0^2 \sqrt{(1 - \lambda_0^2/\lambda^2)} \}$ . It is not often so difficult a differentiation occurs in practice. The most troublesome part of the work is to reduce

$$\frac{d\mu}{d\lambda} = - \frac{\sqrt{2} \mu_0 \lambda_0 \{ \sqrt{(1 + \lambda_0/\lambda)} - \sqrt{(1 - \lambda_0/\lambda)} \} / \lambda^2}{\sqrt{(1 - \lambda_0^2/\lambda^2)} \{ \sqrt{(1 + \lambda_0/\lambda)} + \sqrt{(1 - \lambda_0/\lambda)} \}^2},$$

to the answer given. Hint. Multiply the numerator and denominator of the right member with the factor  $4\mu_0^2(\sqrt{1 + \lambda_0/\lambda} + \sqrt{1 - \lambda_0/\lambda})$ , and take out the terms which are equal to  $\mu$  of the original equation to get  $\mu^3$ . Of course the student is *not* using this abbreviated symbol of division. See footnote, page 14. I recommend the beginner to return to this, and try to do it without the hints. It is a capital exercise for revision.

VIII. *The differential coefficient of a function affected with a fractional or negative exponent.* Since the binomial theorem is true for any exponent positive or negative, fractional or integral, formula (2) may be regarded as quite general. The following proof for fractional and negative exponents is given simply as an exercise. Let

$$y = x^n.$$

First. When  $n$  is a positive fraction. Let  $n = p/q$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are any integers, then

$$y = x^{\frac{p}{q}}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (14)$$

Raise each term to the  $q$ th power, we obtain the expression  $y^q = x^p$ . By differentiation, using the notation of differentials, we have

$$qy^{q-1}dy = px^{p-1}dx.$$

Now raise both sides of the original expression, (14), to the  $(q-1)$ th power, and we get

$$y^{q-1} = x^{\frac{pq-p}{q}}.$$

Substitute this value of  $y^{q-1}$  in the preceding result, and we get

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{p}{q} \cdot \frac{x^{p-1}x^{p/q}}{x^p}; \text{ or, } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{p}{q} x^{\frac{p}{q}-1}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (15)$$

which has exactly the same form as if  $n$  were a positive integer.

Second. When  $n$  is a negative integer or a negative fraction. Let

$$y = x^{-n};$$

then  $y = 1/x^n$ . Differentiating this as if it were a fraction, (13)



above, we get  $dy/dx = -nx^{n-1}/x^{2n}$ , which on reduction to its simplest terms, assumes the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d(x^{-n})}{dx} = -nx^{-n-1}.$$

Thus the method of differentiation first given is quite general.

A special case occurs when  $y = \sqrt{x}$ , in that case  $y = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$ ;

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d(x^{\frac{1}{2}})}{dx} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} = \frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (16)$$

In words, the differential coefficient of the square root of a variable is half the reciprocal of the square root of the variable.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Matthiessen's formula for the variation of the electrical resistance  $R$  of a platinum wire with temperature  $\theta$ , between  $0^\circ$  and  $100^\circ$  is  $R = R_0(1 - a\theta + b\theta^2)^{-1}$ . Find the increase in the resistance of the wire for a small change of temperature. Ansr.  $dR/d\theta = R^2(a - 2b\theta)/R_0$ . Note  $a$  and  $b$  are constants;  $dR = -R_0(1 - a\theta + b\theta^2)^{-2}d(1 - a\theta + b\theta^2)$ ; multiply and divide by  $R_0$ ; substitute for  $R$  from the original equation, etc

(2) Siemens' formula for the relation between the electrical resistance of a metallic wire and temperature is,  $R = R_0(1 + a\theta + b\sqrt{\theta})$ . Hence, find the rate of change of resistance with temperature. Ansr.  $R_0(a + \frac{1}{2}b\theta - \frac{1}{4})$ .

(3) Batschinski (*Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscow*, 1902) finds that the product  $\eta(\theta + 273)^3$  is constant for many liquids of viscosity  $\eta$ , at the temperature  $\theta$ . Hence, show that if  $A$  is the constant,  $d\eta/d\theta = -3\eta/(\theta + 273)$ .

(4) Batschinski (*l. c.*) expresses the relation between the "viscosity parameter,"  $\eta$ , of a liquid and the critical temperature,  $\theta$ , by the expression  $M^{\frac{1}{2}}\theta^{\frac{1}{2}}\eta m^{\frac{2}{3}} = B$ , where  $B$ ,  $M$ , and  $m$  are constants. Hence show that  $d\eta/d\theta = -\frac{1}{2}\eta/\theta$ .

### IX. The differential coefficient of a function of a function.

Let

$$u = \phi(y); \text{ and } y = f(x).$$

It is required to find the differential coefficient of  $u$  with respect to  $x$ . Let  $u$  and  $y$  receive small increments so that when  $u$  becomes  $u_1$ ,  $y$  becomes  $y_1$  and  $x$  becomes  $x_1$ . Then

$$\frac{u_1 - u}{x_1 - x} = \frac{u_1 - u}{y_1 - y} \cdot \frac{y_1 - y}{x_1 - x},$$

which is true, however small the increment may be. At the limit, therefore, when the increments are infinitesimal

$$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{du}{dy} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} \quad (17)$$

I may add that we do not get the first member by cancelling out the  $dy$ 's of the second. The operations are

$$\frac{d}{dx}(u) = \frac{d}{dy}(u) \frac{d}{dx}(y).$$

In words, (17) may be expressed: the differential coefficient of a function with respect to a given variable is equal to the product of the differential coefficient of the function with respect to a second function and the differential coefficient of the second function with respect to the given variable. We can get a physical meaning of this formula by taking  $x$  as time. In that case, the rate of change of a function of a variable is equal to the product of the rate of change of that function with respect to the variable, and the rate of change of the variable.

The extension to three or more variables will be obvious. If  $u = \phi(w)$ ,  $w = \psi(y)$ ,  $y = f(x)$ , it follows that

$$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{du}{dw} \cdot \frac{dw}{dy} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} \quad (18)$$

With the preceding notation, it is evident that the relation

$$\frac{x_1 - x}{y_1 - y} \cdot \frac{y_1 - y}{x_1 - x} = 1$$

is true for all finite increments, we assume that it also holds when the increments are infinitely small; hence, at the limit,

$$\frac{dx}{dy} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 1; \text{ or, } \frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{\frac{dy}{dx}} \quad (19)$$

We have seen that if  $y$  is a function of  $x$  then  $x$  is a function of  $y$ ; the latter, however, is frequently said to be an *inverse function* of the former, or the former an inverse function of the latter. This is expressed as follows: If  $y = f(x)$ , then  $x = f^{-1}(y)$ , or, if  $x = f(y)$ , then  $y = f^{-1}(x)$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y = x^n/(1+x)^n$ , show that  $dy/dx = nx^{n-1}/(1+x)^{n+1}$ .  
 (2) If  $y = 1/\sqrt{1-x^2}$ , show that  $dy/dx = x/\sqrt{1-x^2}$ .  
 (3) The use of formula (17) often simplifies the actual process of differentiation; for instance, it is required to differentiate the expression  $u = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$ . Assume  $y = a^2 - x^2$ . Then,  $u = \sqrt{y}$ ,  $y = a^2 - x^2$ ; and  $dy/dx = -2x$ ;  $du/dy = \frac{1}{2}y^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , from (16); hence, from (17),  $du/dx = -x(a^2 - x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . This is an easy example which could be done at sight; it is given here to illustrate the method.

By the application of these principles any algebraic function which the student will encounter in physical science,<sup>1</sup> may be

<sup>1</sup> K. Weierstrass has shown that there are some continuous functions which have not yet been differentiated, but, as yet, they have no physical application except perhaps to vibrations of very great velocity and small amplitude. See J. Harkness and F. Morley's *Theory of Functions*, London, 65, 1893.

differentiated. Before proceeding to transcendental functions, that is to say, functions which contain trigonometrical, logarithmic or other terms not algebraic, we may apply our knowledge to the well-known equations of Boyle and van der Waals.

### § 15. The Gas Equations of Boyle and van der Waals.

In van der Waals' equation, at a constant temperature,

$$\left(p + \frac{a}{v^2}\right)(v - b) = \text{constant}, \quad (1)$$

where  $b$  is a constant depending on the volume of the molecule,  $a$  is a constant depending on intermolecular attraction. Differentiating with respect to  $p$  and  $v$ , we obtain, as on pages 40 and 41,

$$(v - b)d\left(p + \frac{a}{v^2}\right) + \left(p + \frac{a}{v^2}\right)d(v - b) = 0,$$

and therefore

$$\frac{dv}{dp} = - \frac{v - b}{p - \frac{a}{v^2} + \frac{2ab}{v^3}} \quad (2)$$

The differential coefficient  $dv/dp$  measures the compressibility of the gas. If the gas strictly obeyed Boyle's law,  $a = b = 0$ , and we should have

$$\frac{dv}{dp} = - \frac{v}{p} \quad (3)$$

The negative sign in these equations means that the volume of the gas decreases with increase of pressure. Any gas, therefore, will be more or less sensitive to changes of pressure than Boyle's law indicates, according as the differential coefficient of (2) is greater or less than that of (3), that is according as

$$\frac{v - b}{p - \frac{a}{v^2} + \frac{2ab}{v^3}} \geq \frac{v}{p}; \quad \therefore pv - pb \geq pv - \frac{a}{v} + \frac{2ab}{v^2}; \quad \therefore pb \geq \frac{a}{v} - \frac{2ab}{v^2};$$

$$\therefore pv \geq \frac{a}{b} - \frac{2a}{v} \quad (4)$$

If Boyle's law were strictly obeyed

$$pv = \text{constant}, \quad (5)$$

but if the gas be less sensitive to pressure than Boyle's law indicates, so that, in order to produce a small contraction, the pressure has to be increased a little more than Boyle's law demands,  $pv$  increases with increase of pressure; while if the gas

be more sensitive to pressure than Boyle's law provides for,  $pv$  decreases with increase of pressure.

Some valuable deductions as to intermolecular action have been drawn by comparing the behaviour of gases under compression in the light of equations similar to (4) and (5). But this is not all. From (5), if  $c = \text{constant}$ ,  $v = c/p$ , which gives on differentiation

$$\frac{dv}{dp} = -\frac{c}{p^2},$$

or the ratio of the decrease in volume to the increase of pressure, is inversely as the square of the pressure. By substituting  $p = 2, 3, 4, \dots$  in the last equation we obtain

$$-\frac{dv}{dp} = \frac{1}{4}; \frac{1}{9}; \frac{1}{16}; \dots$$

where  $c = \text{unity}$ . In other words, the greater the pressure to which a gas is subjected the less the corresponding diminution in volume for any subsequent increase of pressure. The negative sign means that as the pressure increases the volume decreases.

## § 16. The Differentiation of Trigonometrical Functions.

Any expression containing trigonometrical ratios, sines, cosines, tangents, secants, cosecants, or cotangents is called a **trigonometrical function**. The elements of trigonometry are discussed in Appendix I., on page 606 *et seq.*, and the beginner had better glance through that section. We may then pass at once *in medias res*. There is no new principle to be learned.

*I. The differential coefficient of  $\sin x$  is  $\cos x$ .* Let  $y$  become  $y_1$ , when  $x$  changes to  $x + h$ , consequently,

$$y = \sin x; \text{ and } y_1 = \sin(x + h); \therefore y_1 - y = \sin(x + h) - \sin x.$$

By (39), page 612,

$$y_1 - y = 2 \sin \frac{h}{2} \cos \left(x + \frac{h}{2}\right).$$

Divide by  $h$  and

$$\frac{y_1 - y}{h} = \frac{\sin \frac{1}{2}h}{\frac{1}{2}h} \cos \left(x + \frac{h}{2}\right).$$

But the value of  $\frac{\sin x}{x}$  approaches unity, page 611, as  $x$  approaches zero, therefore,

$$\text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{y_1 - y}{h} = \cos x; \therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d(\sin x)}{dx} = \cos x \quad (1)$$

The rate of change of the sine of an angle with respect to the angle is equal to the cosine of the angle. When  $x$  increases from 0 to  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ , the rate of increase of  $\sin x$  is positive because  $\cos x$  is then positive, as indicated on page 610; and similarly, since  $\cos x$  is negative from  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$  to  $\pi$ , as the angle increases from  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$  to  $\pi$ ,  $\sin x$  decreases, and the rate of increase of  $\sin x$  is negative.

If  $x$  is measured in degrees, we must write

$$\frac{d(\sin x^\circ)}{dx} = \frac{d(\sin \frac{\pi}{180} x^\circ)}{dx} = \frac{\pi}{180} \cos \frac{\pi x^\circ}{180} = \frac{\pi}{180} \cos x^\circ,$$

since the radian measure of an angle = angle in degrees  $\times \frac{1}{180}\pi$ , where  $\pi = 3.1416$ , as indicated on page 606.

NUMERICAL ILLUSTRATION.—You can get a very fair approximation to the fact stated in (1), by taking  $h$  small and finite. Thus, if  $x = 42^\circ 6'$ ; and  $h = 1'$ ;  $x + h = 42^\circ 7'$ ;

$$\therefore \frac{\text{Incr. } y}{\text{Incr. } x} = \frac{\sin(x + h) - \sin x}{h \text{ in radians}} = \frac{0.0002158}{0.0002909} = 0.74183.$$

But  $\cos x = 0.74198$ ;  $\cos(x + h) = 0.74178$ ; so that when  $h$  is  $\frac{1}{6}^\circ$ ,  $dy/dx$  lies somewhere between  $\cos x$  and  $\cos(x + h)$ . By taking smaller and smaller values of  $h$ ,  $dy/dx$  approaches nearer and nearer in value to  $\cos x$ .

II. *The differential coefficient of  $\cos x$  is  $-\sin x$ .* Let us put  $y = \cos x$ ; and  $y_1 = \cos(x + h)$ ;  $y_1 - y = \cos(x + h) - \cos x$ . From the formula (41) on page 612, it follows that

$$y_1 - y = -2 \sin \frac{h}{2} \sin \left(x + \frac{h}{2}\right); \text{ or } \frac{y_1 - y}{h} = -\frac{\sin \frac{1}{2}h}{\frac{1}{2}h} \sin \left(x + \frac{h}{2}\right);$$

and at the limit when  $h = 0$ ,

$$\text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{y_1 - y}{h} = -\sin x; \therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d(\cos x)}{dx} = -\sin x \quad (2)$$

The meaning of the negative sign can readily be deduced from the definition of the differential coefficient. The differential coefficient of  $\cos x$  with respect to  $x$  represents the rate at which  $\cos x$  increases when  $x$  is slightly increased. The negative sign shows that this rate of increase is negative, in other words,  $\cos x$  diminishes as  $x$  increases from 0 to  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ . When  $x$  passes from  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$  to  $\pi$   $\cos x$  increases as  $x$  increases, the differential coefficient is then positive.

III. *The differential coefficient of  $\tan x$  is  $\sec^2 x$ .* Using the results already deduced for  $\sin x$  and  $\cos x$ , and remembering that  $\sin x / \cos x$  is, by definition, equal to  $\tan x$ , let  $y = \tan x$ , then

$$\frac{d(\tan x)}{dx} = \frac{d\left(\frac{\sin x}{\cos x}\right)}{dx} = \frac{\cos x \frac{d(\sin x)}{dx} - \sin x \frac{d(\cos x)}{dx}}{\cos^2 x} = \frac{\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x}{\cos^2 x}$$

But the numerator is equal to unity (19), page 611. Hence

$$\frac{d(\tan x)}{dx} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} = \sec^2 x. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

In the same way it can be shown that

$$\frac{d(\cot x)}{dx} = -\operatorname{cosec}^2 x. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

The remaining trigonometrical functions may be left for the reader to work out himself. The results are given on page 193.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y = \cos^n x$ ;  $dy/dx = -n \cos^{n-1} x \cdot \sin x$ .

(2) If  $y = \sin^n x$ ;  $dy/dx = n \sin^{n-1} x \cdot \cos x$ .

(3) If a particle vibrates according to the equation  $y = a \sin (qt - \epsilon)$ , what is the velocity at any instant when  $a$ ,  $q$  and  $\epsilon$  are constant? The answer is  $aq \cos (qt - \epsilon)$ .

(4) If  $y = \sin^2(nx - a)$ ;  $dy/dx = 2n \sin (nx - a) \cos (nx - a)$ .

(5) Differentiate  $\tan \theta = y/x$ . Ansr.  $d\theta = (x dy - y dx) \div (x^2 + y^2)$ . Hint.

$$\sec^2 \theta \cdot d\theta = (1 + \tan^2 \theta) d\theta; \therefore \frac{x^2 + y^2}{x^2} d\theta = \frac{x dy - y dx}{x^2}, \text{ etc.}$$

(6) If the point  $P$  moves upon a circle, with a centre  $O$  and radius 18 cm.,  $AB$  is a diameter;  $MP$  is a perpendicular upon  $AB$ , show that the speed of  $M$  on the line  $AB$  is 226 cm. per second when the angle  $BOP = \alpha = 30^\circ$ ; and  $P$  travels round the perimeter four times a second. Sketch a diagram. Here  $OM = y = r \cos \alpha = 18 \cos \alpha$ ;  $\therefore dy/dt = - (18 \sin \alpha) d\alpha/dt$ . But  $d\alpha/dt = 4 \times 2\pi$  since  $\pi$  = half the circumference;  $\sin 30^\circ = \frac{1}{2}$ ;

$$\therefore dy/dt = - 18 \times \frac{1}{2} \times 8\pi = - 9 \times 8 \times 3.1416 = - 226 \text{ cm. per sec. (nearly).}$$

## § 17. The Differentiation of Inverse Trigonometrical Functions. The Differentiation of Angles.

The equation,  $\sin y = x$ , means that  $y$  is an angle whose sine is  $x$ . It is sometimes convenient to write this another way, *viz.*,

$$\sin^{-1} x = y,$$

meaning that  $\sin^{-1} x$  is an *angle* whose sine is  $x$ . Thus if  $\sin 30^\circ = \frac{1}{2}$ , we say that  $30^\circ$  or  $\sin^{-1} \frac{1}{2}$  is an angle whose sine is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Trigonometrical ratios written in this reverse way are called **inverse trigonometrical functions**. The superscript “ $-1$ ” has no other signification when attached to the trigonometrical ratios. Note, if  $\tan 45^\circ = 1$ , then  $\tan^{-1} 1 = 45^\circ$ ;  $\therefore \tan (\tan^{-1} 1) = \tan 45^\circ$ . Some writers employ the symbols  $\operatorname{arc} \sin x$ ;  $\operatorname{arc} \tan x$ ; ... for our  $\sin^{-1} x$ ;  $\tan^{-1} x$ ; ...

The differentiation of the inverse trigonometrical functions may be illustrated by proving that the differential coefficient of  $\sin^{-1}x$  is  $1/\sqrt{1-x^2}$ . If  $y = \sin^{-1}x$ , then  $\sin y = x$ , and

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \cos y; \text{ or } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\cos y},$$

But we know from (19), page 611, that

$\cos^2 y + \sin^2 y = 1$ ; or  $\cos y = \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 y} = \pm \sqrt{1 - x^2}$ ,  
for by hypothesis  $\sin y = x$ . Hence

$$\frac{d(\sin^{-1}x)}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\cos y} = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}.$$

The fallacy mentioned on page 5 illustrates the errors which might enter our work unsuspectingly by leaving the algebraic sign of a root extraction undetermined. Here the ambiguity of sign means that there are a series of values of  $y$  for any assigned value of  $x$  between the limits  $\pm 1$ . Thus, if  $n$  is a positive integer, we know that  $\sin x = \sin(n\pi \pm x)$ ; the  $+$  sign obtains if  $n$  is even; the negative sign if  $n$  is odd. This means that if  $x$  satisfies  $\sin^{-1}y$ , so will  $\pi \pm x$ ;  $2\pi \pm x$ ; ... If we agree to take  $\sin^{-1}y$  as the angle between  $-\frac{1}{2}\pi$  and  $+\frac{1}{2}\pi$ , then there will be no ambiguity because  $\cos y$  is then necessarily positive. The differential coefficient is then positive, that is to say,

$$\frac{d(\sin^{-1}x)}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}. \quad (1)$$

Similarly,

$$\frac{d(\cos^{-1}x)}{dx} = -\frac{1}{\sin y} = -\left(\frac{1}{\pm \sqrt{1-x^2}}\right) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}. \quad (2)$$

The ambiguity of sign is easily decided by remembering that  $\sin y$  is positive when  $y$  lies between  $\pi$  and  $0$ . Again, if  $y = \tan^{-1}x$ ,  $x = \tan y$ ,  $dx/dy = 1/\cos^2 y$ . But  $\cos^2 y = 1/(1 + \tan^2 y) = 1/(1 + x^2)$  (page 612). Hence

$$\frac{d(\tan^{-1}x)}{dx} = \cos^2 y = \frac{1}{1+x^2}. \quad (3)$$

The differential coefficient of  $\tan^{-1}x$  is an important function, since it appears very frequently in practical formulæ. It follows in a similar manner that

$$\frac{d(\cot^{-1}x)}{dx} = -\frac{1}{1+x^2}. \quad (4)$$

The remaining inverse trigonometrical functions may be left as an exercise for the student. Their values will be found on page 193.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Differentiate  $y = \sin^{-1} [x/\sqrt{1+x^2}]$ .  $\sin y = x/\sqrt{1+x^2}$  hence  $\cos y dy = dx/(1+x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}$ . But  $\cos y = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 y} = \sqrt{1 - x^2/(1+x^2)}$ . Substituting this value of  $\cos y$  in the former result we get, on reduction,  $dy/dx = (1+x^2)^{-1}$ , the answer required. Note the steps:

$(1+x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx - x^2(1+x^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}} dx = (1+x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}(1+x^2 - x^2) dx$ , etc. Also  $\cos y \times (1+x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} = (1+x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}(1+x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} = (1+x^2)$ .

(2) If  $y = \sin^{-1} x^2$ ;  $dy/dx = 2x(1-x^4)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

(3) If  $y = \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$ ;  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$ . See formula (22), page 612.

### § 18. The Differentiation of Logarithms.

Any expression containing logarithmic terms is called a **logarithmic function**. *E.g.*,  $y = \log x + x^3$ . To find the differential coefficient of  $\log x$ . Let

$$y = \log x; \text{ and } y_1 = \log(x+h).$$

Where  $y_1$  denotes the value of  $y$  when  $x$  is augmented to  $x+h$ . By substitution,

$$\frac{y_1 - y}{h} = \frac{\log(x+h) - \log x}{h};$$

but we know, page 23, that  $\log a - \log b = \log \frac{a}{b}$ , therefore

$$\frac{\text{incr. } y}{\text{incr. } x} = \frac{1}{h} \log \left( \frac{x+h}{x} \right) = \frac{1}{h} \log \left( 1 + \frac{h}{x} \right),$$

and  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{1}{h} \log \left( 1 + \frac{h}{x} \right). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$

The limiting value of this expression cannot be determined in its present form by the processes hitherto used, owing to the nature of the terms  $1/h$  and  $h/x$ . The calculation must therefore be made by an indirect process. Let us substitute

$$\frac{h}{x} = \frac{1}{u}; \quad \therefore \frac{1}{h} = \frac{u}{x}.$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{h} \log \left( 1 + \frac{h}{x} \right) = \frac{1}{x} \cdot u \log \left( 1 + \frac{1}{u} \right) = \frac{1}{x} \cdot \log \left( 1 + \frac{1}{u} \right)^u.$$

As  $h$  decreases  $u$  increases, and the limiting value of  $u$  when  $h$  becomes vanishingly small, is infinity. The problem now is to find what is the limiting value of  $\log(1+u^{-1})^u$  when  $u$  is infinitely great. In other words, to find the limiting value of the above expression when  $u$  increases without limit.



$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \text{Lt}_{u=\infty} \frac{1}{x} \cdot \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{u}\right)^u \quad (2)$$

According to the binomial theorem, page 36,

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{u}\right)^u = 1 + \frac{u}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{u} + \frac{u(u-1)}{2!} \cdot \frac{1}{u^2} + \dots;$$

dividing out the  $u$ 's in each term, and we get

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{u}\right)^u = 2 + \frac{\left(1 - \frac{1}{u}\right)}{2!} + \frac{\left(1 - \frac{1}{u}\right)\left(1 - \frac{2}{u}\right)}{3!} + \dots$$

The limiting value of this expression when  $u$  is infinitely great is evidently equal to the sum of the infinite series of terms

$$1 + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \frac{1}{4!} + \dots \text{ to infinity.} \quad (3)$$

Let the sum of this series of terms be denoted by the symbol  $e$ . By taking a sufficient number of these terms we can approximate as close as ever we please to the absolute value of  $e$ . If we add together the first seven terms of the series we get 2.71826

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + \frac{1}{1} &= 2.00000 \\ \frac{1}{2!} &= 0.50000 \\ \frac{1}{3!} &= \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2!} = 0.16667 \\ \frac{1}{4!} &= \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{3!} = 0.04167 \\ \frac{1}{5!} &= \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{4!} = 0.00833 \\ \frac{1}{6!} &= \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{5!} = 0.00139 \\ \frac{1}{7!} &= \frac{1}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{6!} = 0.00020 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Sum of first seven terms} = 2.71826$$

The value of  $e$  correct to the ninth decimal place

$$e = 2.718281828 \dots$$

This number, like  $\pi = 3.14159265 \dots$ , plays an important rôle in mathematics. Both magnitudes are incommensurable and can only be evaluated in an approximate way.

Returning now to (2), it is obvious that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d(\log x)}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} \log e \quad (4)$$

This formula is true whatever base we adopt for our system of logarithms. If we use 10,  $\log_{10} e = 0.43429 \dots = (\text{say}) M$ ,

and

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d(\log_{10} x)}{dx} = \frac{M}{x} \quad (5)$$

Since  $\log_e a = 1$ , from (6), page 27, we can put expression (4) in a much simpler form by using a system of logarithms to the base  $e$ , then

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d(\log_e x)}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

Continental writers variously use the symbols  $L, l, \ln, \lg$ , for “log” and “log nep”; “nat log,” or “hyp log,” for “log.” “Nep” is an abbreviation for “Neperian,” a Latinized adjectival form of Napier’s name.—J. Napier was the inventor of logarithmic computation. You will see later on where “hyp log” comes from.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y = \log ax^4$ , show that  $dy/dx = 4/x$ .

(2) If  $y = x^n \log x$ , show that  $dy/dx = x^{n-1}(1 + n \log x)$ .

(3) What is meant by the expression,  $2.71828^n \times 2.3026 = 10^n$ ? Ansr. If  $n$  is a common logarithm, then  $n \times 2.3026$  is a natural logarithm. Note,  $e = 2.71828$ .

(4) A. Dupre (1869) represented the relation between the vapour pressures,  $p$ , of a substance and the absolute temperature  $T$  by the equation

$$\log p = \frac{a}{T} + b \log T + c. \quad \therefore \frac{d(\log p)}{dT} = \frac{A + BT}{T^2};$$

a result resembling van’t Hoff’s well-known equation. Hence show that if  $a, b, c, A, B$  are all constants,  $dp/dT = p(A + BT)/T^2$ .

In seeking the differential coefficient of a complex function containing products and powers of polynomials, the work is often facilitated by taking the logarithm of each member separately before differentiation. The compound process is called **logarithmic differentiation**.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Differentiate  $y = x^n/(1+x)^n$ .

Here  $\log y = n \log x - n \log (1+x)$ , or  $dy/y = ndx/x(1+x)$ . Hence  $dy/dx = yn/x(1+x) = nx^{n-1}/(1+x)^{n+1}$ .

(2) Differentiate  $x^4(1+x)^n/(x^3-1)$ .

Ansr.  $\{(n+1)x^4 + x^3 - (n+4)x - 4\}x^3(1+x)^{n-1}(x^3-1)^{-2}$ .

(3) Establish (10), page 41, by log differentiation. In the same way, show that  $d(xy z) = yz dx + xz dy + xy dz$ .

(4) If  $y = x(a^2 + x^2)\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$ ;  $dy/dx = (a^4 + a^2x^2 - 4x^4)(a^2 - x^2)^{-1/2}$ .

(5) If  $y = \log \sin x$ ;  $dy/dx = d(\sin x)/\sin x = \cot x$ .

(6) How much more rapidly does the number  $x$  increase than its logarithm? Here  $d(\log x)/dx = 1/x$ . The number, therefore, increases more rapidly or more slowly than its logarithm according as  $x >$  or  $< 1$ . If  $x = 1$ , the rates are the same. If common logarithms are employed,  $M$  will have to be substituted in place of unity. *E.g.*,  $d(\log_{10} x)dx = M/x$ .

(7) If the relation between the number of molecules  $x$  of substances A and B transformed in the chemical reaction:  $A + B = C + D$ , and the time  $t$  be

represented by the equation

$$\log \frac{b(a-x)}{a(b-x)} = (a-b)kt$$

where  $k$  is constant, and  $a$  and  $b$  respectively denote the amounts of A and B present when  $t = 0$ , show that the velocity of the reaction is proportional to the amounts of A and B actually present at the time  $t$ . Hint. Show that the velocity of the reaction is proportional to  $(a-x)(b-x)$  and interpret.

## § 19. The Differential Coefficient of Exponential Functions.

Functions in which the variable quantity occurs in the index are called **exponential functions**. Thus,  $a^x$ ,  $e^x$  and  $(a+x)^x$  are exponential functions. A few words on the transformation of logarithmic into exponential functions may be needed. It is required to transform  $\log y = ax$  into an exponential function. Remembering that  $\log a$  to the base  $a$  is unity, it makes no difference to any magnitude if we multiply it by such expressions as  $\log_a a$ ;  $\log_{10} 10$ ; and  $\log_e e$ . Thus, since  $\log_e(e^{ax}) = ax \log_e e$ ; if  $\log_e y = ax$ , we can write

$$\log_e y = ax \log_e e = \log_e e^{ax}; \therefore y = e^{ax},$$

when the logarithms are removed. In future "log" will generally be written in place of " $\log_e$ ". "Exp  $x$ " is sometimes written for " $e^x$ "; "Exp  $(-x)$ " for " $e^{-x}$ ".

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y = e^{\log x}$ ; show  $y = x$ .

(2) If  $\log I = -ax$ ;  $I = e^{-ax}$ .

(3) If  $\theta = be^{-at}$ ;  $\log b - \log \theta = at$ .

(4) If  $\log_e z = a\theta$ ;  $\log_{10} z = 0.4343a\theta$ .

(5) Show that if  $\log y_0 - \log y = kct$ ;  $y = y_0 e^{-kct}$ .

The differentiation of exponential functions may be conveniently studied in three sections:

(i) Let

$$y = e^x.$$

Take logarithms, and then, differentiating, we get

$$\log y = x \log e; \frac{dy}{y} = dx, \text{ or } \frac{dy}{dx} = e^x;$$

in other words, the differential coefficient of  $e^x$  is  $e^x$  itself, or,

$$\frac{d(e^x)}{dx} = e^x. \quad (1)$$

The simplicity of this equation, and of (6) in the preceding section, explains the reason for the almost exclusive use of natural logarithms in higher mathematics.

(ii) Let

$$y = a^x.$$

As before, taking logarithms, and differentiating, we get

$$\log y = x \log a; \frac{dy}{dx} = y \log a; \therefore \frac{d(a^x)}{dx} = a^x \log a. \quad (2)$$

In words, the differential coefficient of a constant affected with a variable exponent is equal to the product of the constant affected with the same exponent into the logarithm of the constant.

(iii) Let

$$y = x^z,$$

where  $x$  and  $z$  are both variable. Taking logarithms, and differentiating

$$\begin{aligned} \log y &= z \log x; \frac{dy}{y} = \log x dz + \frac{z dx}{x}; \\ \therefore dy &= x^z \log x dz + z x^{z-1} dx \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

If  $x$  and  $z$  are functions of  $t$ , we have

$$\frac{d(x^z)}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dt} = x^z \log x \frac{dz}{dt} + z x^{z-1} \frac{dx}{dt} \quad (4)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) The amount,  $x$ , of substance transformed in a chemical reaction at the time  $t$  is given by the expression  $x = ae^{-kt}$ , where  $a$  denotes the amount of substance present at the beginning of the reaction, hence show that the velocity of the chemical reaction is proportional to the amount of substance undergoing transformation. Hint. Show that  $dx/dt = -kx$ , and interpret.

(2) If  $y = (a^x + x)^2$ ,  $dy/dx = 2(a^x + x)(a^x \log a + 1)$ .

(3) If  $y = a^{nx}$ ,  $dy/dx = na^{nx} \log a$ .

(4) From Magnus' empirical formula for the relation between the pressure of aqueous vapour and temperature

$$p = ab^{\frac{\theta}{\gamma + \theta}}; \therefore \frac{dp}{d\theta} = \frac{a\gamma \log b}{(\gamma + \theta)^2} \cdot b^{\frac{\theta}{\gamma + \theta}},$$

where  $a, b, \gamma$  are constants. This differential coefficient represents the increase of pressure corresponding with a small rise of temperature, say, roughly from  $\theta^\circ$  to  $(\theta + 1)^\circ$ .

(5) Biot's empirical formula for the relation between the pressure of aqueous vapour,  $p$ , and the temperature,  $\theta$ , is

$$\log p = a + ba^\theta - c\beta^\theta; \text{ show } \frac{dp}{d\theta} = pba^\theta \log a - pc\beta^\theta \log \beta.$$

(6) Required the velocity of a point which moves according to the equation  $y = ae^{-\lambda t} \cos 2\pi(qt + \epsilon)$ . Since velocity  $= dy/dt$ , the answer is  $-ae^{-\lambda t} \{\lambda \cos 2\pi(qt + \epsilon) + 2\pi q \sin 2\pi(qt + \epsilon)\}$ .

(7) The relation between the amount,  $x$ , of substance formed by two consecutive unimolecular reactions and the time  $t$  or the intensity of the "excited" radioactivity of thorium or radium emanations at the time  $t$ , is given by the expression

$$x = 1 + \frac{k_2}{k_1 - k_2} e^{-k_1 t} - \frac{k_1}{k_1 - k_2} e^{-k_2 t}; \therefore \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{k_1 k_2}{k_1 - k_2} (e^{-k_2 t} - e^{-k_1 t}),$$

where  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are constants. Show that the last expression represents the velocity of the change.

(8) The viscosity,  $\eta$ , of a mixture of non-electrolytes (when the concentrations of the substances with viscosity coefficients  $A, B, C, \dots$  are  $x, y, z, \dots$  respectively) is  $\eta = A^x B^y C^z \dots$ . Show that for a small change in  $x, y, z \dots$   $d\eta$  becomes  $\eta(adx + bdy + cdz)$ , where  $\log A = a, \log B = b, \log C = c$ . Hint. Take logs before differentiation.

## § 20. The "Compound Interest Law" in Nature.

I cannot pass by the function  $e^x$  without indicating its great significance in physical processes. From the above equations it follows that if

$$y = Ce^{ax}; \text{ then } \frac{dy}{dx} = be^{ax} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where  $a, b$  and  $C$  are constants,  $b$ , by the way, being equal to  $aC \log_e e$ .  $C$  is the value of  $y$  when  $x = 0$ . Why? It will be proved later on that this operation may be reversed under certain conditions, and if

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = be^{ax}, \text{ then } y = Ce^{ax}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

where  $a, b$  and  $C$  are again constant. All these results indicate that the rate of increase of the exponential function  $e^x$  is  $e^x$  itself. *If, therefore, in any physical investigation we find some function, say  $y$ , varying at a rate proportional to itself (with or without some constant term) we guess at once that we are dealing with an exponential function. Thus if*

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \pm ay; \text{ we may write } y = Ce^{ax}, \text{ or } Ce^{-ax}, \quad (2a)$$

according as the function is increasing or decreasing in magnitude.

Money lent at compound interest increases in this way, and hence the above property has been happily styled by Lord Kelvin "the compound interest law" (*Encyc. Brit.*, art. "Elasticity," 1877). A great many natural phenomena possess this property. The following will repay study:—

ILLUSTRATION 1.—*Compound interest.* If £100 is lent out at 5 % per annum, at the end of the first year £105 remains. If this be the principal for a second year, the interest during that time will be charged not only on the original £100, but also on the

additional £5. To put this in more general terms, let  $\text{£}p_0$  be lent at  $r\%$  per annum, at the end of the first year the interest amounts to  $\frac{r}{100}p_0$ , and if  $p_1$  be the principal for the second year, we have at the end of the first year

$$p_1 = p_0\left(1 + \frac{r}{100}\right);$$

and at the end of the second year,

$$p_2 = p_1\left(1 + \frac{r}{100}\right) = p_0\left(1 + \frac{r}{100}\right)^2.$$

If this be continued year after year, the interest charged on the increasing capital becomes greater and greater until at the end of  $t$  years, assuming that the interest is added to the capital every year,

$$p = p_0\left(1 + \frac{r}{100}\right)^t \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

EXAMPLE.—Find the amount (interest + principal) of £500 for 10 years at 5% compound interest. The interest is added to the principal annually. From (3),  $\log p = \log 500 + 10 \log 1.05$ ;  $\therefore p = \text{£}814 \text{ 8s. (nearly)}$ .

Instead of adding the interest to the capital every twelve months, we could do this monthly, weekly, daily, hourly, and so on. If Nature were our banker she would not add the interest to the principal every year, rather would the interest be added to the capital continuously from moment to moment. *Natura non facit saltus*. Let us imagine that this has been done in order that we may compare this process with natural phenomena, and approximate as closely as we can to what actually occurs in Nature. As a first approximation, suppose the interest to be added to the principal every month. It can be shown in the same way that the principal at the end of twelve months, is

$$p = p_0\left(1 + \frac{r}{12 \cdot 100}\right)^{12} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

If we next assume that during the whole year the interest is added to the principal every moment, say  $n$  per year, we may replace 12 by  $n$ , in (4), and

$$p = p_0\left(1 + \frac{r}{100n}\right)^n \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

For convenience in subsequent calculation, let us put

$$\frac{r}{100n} = \frac{1}{u}, \text{ so that } n = \frac{ur}{100}.$$

From (5) and formula (11), page 28,

$$p = p_0\left\{\left(1 + \frac{1}{u}\right)^u\right\}^{\frac{r}{100}}.$$

But  $(1 + 1/u)^u$  has been shown in (3), page 52, to be equivalent to  $e$  when  $u$  is infinitely great; hence, writing  $\frac{r}{100} = a$ ,

$$p = p_0 e^a;$$

which represents the amount of active principal bearing interest at the end of one year on the assumption that the interest is added to the principal from moment to moment. At the end of  $t$  years therefore, from (3),

$$p = p_0 e^{at}; \text{ or, } p = p_0 e^{\frac{r}{100}t}. \quad (6)$$

EXAMPLE.—Compare the amount of £500 for 10 years at 5% compound interest when the interest is added annually by the banker, with the amount which would accrue if the interest were added each instant it became due. In the first case, use (3), and in the latter (6). For the first case  $p = £814$  8s.; for the second  $p = £824$  7s.

ILLUSTRATION 2.—*Newton's law of cooling.* Let a body have a uniform temperature  $\theta_1$ , higher than its surroundings, it is required to find the rate at which the body cools. Let  $\theta_0$  denote the temperature of the medium surrounding the body. In consequence of the exchange of heat, the temperature of the body gradually falls from  $\theta_1$  to  $\theta_0$ . Let  $t$  denote the time required by the body to fall from  $\theta_1$  to  $\theta$ . The temperature of the body is then  $\theta - \theta_0$  above that of its surroundings. The most probable supposition that we can now make is that the rate at which the body loses heat ( $-dQ$ ) is proportional to the difference between its temperature and that of its surroundings. Hence

$$-\frac{dQ}{dt} = k(\theta - \theta_0),$$

where  $k$  is a coefficient depending on the nature of the substance.

From the definition of specific heat, if  $s$  denotes the specific heat of unit mass of substance.

$$Q = s(\theta - \theta_0), ; \text{ or } dQ = sd\theta.$$

Substitute this in the former expression. Since  $k/s = \text{constant} = a$  (say) and  $\theta_0 = 0^\circ \text{ C.}$ , we obtain

$$-\frac{d\theta}{dt} = a\theta, \quad (7)$$

or, in words, the velocity of cooling of a body is proportional to the difference between its temperature and that of its surroundings. This is generally styled Newton's law of cooling, but it does not quite express Newton's idea (*Phil. Trans.*, 22, 827, 1701).

Since the rate of diminution of  $\theta$  is proportional to  $\theta$  itself, we

guess at once that we are dealing with the compound interest law, and from a comparison with (1) and (2a) above, we get

$$\theta = be^{-ax}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

or  $\log b - \log \theta = at. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$

If  $\theta_1$  represents the temperature at the time  $t_1$ , and  $\theta_2$  the temperature at the time  $t_2$ , we have

$$\log b - \log \theta_1 = at_1, \text{ and } \log b - \log \theta_2 = at_2.$$

By subtraction, since  $a$  is constant, we get

$$a = \frac{1}{t_1 - t_2} \cdot \log \frac{\theta_2}{\theta_1}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

The validity of the original "simplifying assumption" as to the rate at which heat is lost by the body must be tested by comparing the result expressed in equation (10) with the results of experiment. If the logical consequence of the assumption agrees with facts, there is every reason to suppose that the working hypothesis is true. For the purpose of comparison we may use A. Winkelmann's data, published in *Wied. Ann.*, 44, 177, 429, 1891, for the rate of cooling of a body from a temperature of  $19.9^\circ \text{C.}$  to  $0^\circ \text{C.}$

If  $\theta$  denote the temperature of the body after the interval of time  $t_1 - t_2$  and  $\theta_2 = 19.9$ ,  $\theta_1 = \theta$ , remembering that in practical work Briggsian logarithms are used, we obtain, from (10), the expression

$$\frac{1}{t_1 - t_2} \cdot \log_{10} \frac{\theta_2}{\theta} = \text{constant, say } k.$$

Winkelmann's data for  $\theta$  and  $t_1 - t_2$  are to be arranged as shown in the following table:—

$\theta.$	$t_2 - t_1.$	$k$ (calculated).
18.9	3.45	0.006490
16.9	10.85	0.006540
14.9	19.30	0.006511
12.9	28.80	0.006537
10.9	40.10	0.006519
8.9	53.75	0.006502
6.9	70.95	0.006483

Hence,  $k$  is constant within the limits of certain small irregular variations due to experimental error. Thus the truth of the supposition is established within the limits of the errors incidental to Winkelmann's method of measurement.



This is a typical example of the way in which the logical deductions of an hypothesis are tested. There are other methods. For instance, Dulong and Petit (*Ann. Chim. Phys.*, [2], 7, 225, 337, 1817) have made the series of exact measurements shown in the first and second columns of the following table:—

$\theta$ , excess of temp. of body above that of medium.	$V$ , velocity of cooling = $d\theta/dt$ .			
	Observed.	Calculated by the formula of:		
		Newton.	Dulong and Petit.	Stefan.
220°	8.81	6.82	8.97	8.95
200°	7.40	6.20	7.41	7.44
180°	6.10	5.58	6.06	6.11
160°	4.89	4.96	4.91	4.95
140°	3.88	4.34	3.92	3.94
120°	3.02	3.72	3.08	3.05
100°	2.80	3.10	2.85	2.80

If we knew the numerical value of the constant  $\alpha$  in formula (7), this expression could be employed to calculate the value of  $d\theta/dt$  for any given value of  $\theta$ . To evaluate  $\alpha$ , substitute the observed values of  $V$  and  $\theta$  in (7) and take the mean of the different results so obtained. Thus,  $\alpha = 0.031$ . The third column shows the velocities of cooling calculated on the assumption that Newton's law is true. The agreement between the experimental and theoretical results is very poor. Hence it is necessary to seek a second approximation to the true law. With this object, Dulong and Petit have proposed

$$V = b(c^\theta - 1), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (11)$$

as a second approximation. Here  $b = 2.037$ ,  $c = 1.0077$ . Column 4 shows the velocity of cooling calculated from Dulong and Petit's law. The agreement between theory and fact is now very close. This formula, however, has no theoretical basis. It is the result of a guess. Stefan's guess is that

$$V = \alpha\{(273 + \theta)^4 - (273)^4\}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (12)$$

where  $\alpha = 10^{-11} \times 16.72$ . The calculated results in the fifth column are quite as good as those attending the use of Dulong and Petit's formula. Galitzine has pointed out that Stefan's formula can be established on theoretical grounds.

It is a very common thing to find different formulæ agree, so

far as we can test them, equally well with facts. *The reader must, therefore, guard against implicit faith in this criterion—the agreement between observed and calculated results—as an infallible experimentum crucis.*

Lord Kelvin once assumed that there was a complete transformation of thermal into electrical energy in the chemical action of a galvanic element. Measurements made by Joule and himself with a Daniell element gave results in harmony with theory. The agreement was afterwards shown to be illusory. Success in explaining facts is not necessarily proof of the validity of an hypothesis, for, as Leibnitz puts it, “le vrai peut être tiré du faux,” in other words, it is possible to infer the truth from false premises.

A little consideration will show that it is quite legitimate to deduce the numerical values of the above constants from the experiments themselves. For example, we might have taken the mean of the values of  $k$  in Winkelmann's table above, and applied the test by comparing the calculated with the observed values of either  $t_2 - t_1$ , or of  $\theta$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) To again quote from Winkelmann's paper, if, when the temperature of the surrounding medium is  $99.74^\circ$ , the body cools so that when

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \theta = & 119.97^\circ, & 117.97^\circ, & 115.97^\circ, & 113.97^\circ, & 111.97^\circ, & 109.97^\circ; \\ t = & 0, & 12.6 & 26.7 & 42.9 & 61.2 & 83.1. \end{array}$$

Do you think that Newton's law is confirmed by these measurements? Hint. Instead of assuming that  $\theta_0 = 0$ , it will be found necessary to retain  $\theta_0$  in the above discussion. Do this and show that the above results must be tested by means of the formula

$$\frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \cdot \log_{10} \frac{\theta_2 - \theta_0}{\theta_1 - \theta_0} = \text{constant}.$$

(2) What will be the temperature of a bowl of coffee in an hour's time if the temperature ten minutes ago was  $80^\circ$ , and is now  $70^\circ$  above the temperature of the room? Assume Newton's law of cooling. Ansr.  $31.2^\circ$  above the surrounding temperature. Hint. From (8),  $70 = 80 \cdot e^{-10a}$ ;  $\therefore a = 0.0134$ ; and again,  $x = 80 \cdot e^{-0.0134 \times 70}$ . We cannot apply the amended laws—Dulong and Petit's, and Stefan's—until we have taken up more advanced work. See (14) and (15), page 372.

ILLUSTRATION 3.—*The variation of atmospheric pressure with altitude* above sea-level can be shown to follow the compound interest law. Let  $p_0$  be the pressure in centimetres of mercury at the so-called datum line, or sea-level,  $p$  the pressure at a height  $h$  above this level. Let  $\rho_0$  be the density of air at sea-level ( $\text{Hg} = 1$ ). Now the pressure at the sea-level is produced by the weight of

the superincumbent air, that is, by the weight of a column of air of a height  $h$  and constant density  $\rho_0$ . This weight is equal to  $h\rho_0$ . If the downward pressure of the air were constant, the barometric pressure would be lowered  $\rho_0$  centimetres for every centimetre rise above sea-level. But by Boyle's law the decrease in the density of air is proportional to the pressure, and if  $\rho$  denote the density of air at a height  $dh$  above sea-level, the pressure  $dp$  is given by the expression

$$dp = -\rho dh.$$

If we consider the air arranged in very thin strata, we may regard the density of the air in each stratum as constant. By Boyle's law

$$\rho p_0 = \rho_0 p; \text{ or, } \rho = \rho_0 p / p_0.$$

Substituting this value of  $\rho$  in the above formula, we get

$$\frac{dp}{dh} = -\frac{\rho_0 p}{p_0} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (13)$$

The negative sign indicates that the pressure decreases vertically upwards. This equation is the compound interest law in another guise. The variation in the pressure, as we ascend or descend, is proportional to the pressure itself. Since  $p_0/\rho_0$  is constant, we have on applying the compound interest law to (13),

$$p = \text{constant} \times e^{-\frac{\rho_0}{p_0} h}.$$

We can readily find the value of the constant by noting that at sea-level  $h = 0$ ;  $e^0 = 1$ ;  $p = \text{constant} \times e^0 = p_0$ . Substituting these values in the last equation, we obtain

$$p = p_0 e^{-\frac{\rho_0}{p_0} h}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (14)$$

a relation known as Halley's law. Continued p. 260, Ex. (2).

ILLUSTRATION 4.—*The absorption of actinic energy from light passing through an absorbing medium.* The intensity,  $I$ , of a beam of light is changed by an amount  $dI$  after it has passed through a layer of absorbing medium  $dl$  thick in such a way that

$$dI = -aI dl,$$

where  $a$  is a constant depending on the nature of the absorbing medium and on the wave length of light. The rate of variation in the intensity of the light is therefore proportional to the intensity of the light itself, in other words, the compound interest law again appears. Hence

$$\frac{dI}{dl} = -aI; \text{ or } I = \text{constant} \times e^{-a l}.$$



where  $a, b$  are constants. If we start with unit volume of mercury at  $0^\circ$ ,  $b=1$  and we have the required result.

(2) According to Nordenskjöld's solubility law, in the absence of supersaturation, for a small change in the temperature,  $d\theta$ , there is a change in the solubility of a salt,  $ds$ , proportional to the amount of salt  $s$  contained in the solution at the temperature  $\theta$ , or  $ds = asd\theta$  where  $a$  is a constant. Show that the equation connecting the amount of salt dissolved by the solution with the temperature is  $s = s_0 e^{a\theta}$ , where  $s_0$  is the solubility of the salt at  $0^\circ$ .

(3) If any dielectric (condenser) be subject to a difference of potential, the density  $\rho$  of the charge constantly diminishes according to the relation  $\rho = be^{-at}$ , where  $b$  is an empirical constant; and  $a$  is a constant equal to the product  $4\pi$  into the coefficient of conductivity,  $c$ , of the dielectric, and the time,  $t$ , divided by the specific inductive capacity,  $\mu$ , i.e.,  $a = 4\pi ct/\mu$ . Hence show that the gradual discharge of a condenser follows the compound interest law. Ansr. Show  $d\rho/dt = -a\rho$ .

(4) One form of Dalton's empirical law for the pressure of saturated vapour,  $p$ , between certain limits of temperature,  $\theta$ , is,  $p = ae^{\theta}$ . Show that this is an example of the compound interest law.

(5) The relation between the velocity  $V$  of a certain chemical reaction and temperature,  $\theta^\circ$ , is  $\log V = a + b\theta$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants. Show that we are dealing with the compound interest law. What is the logical consequence of this law with reference to reactions which (like hydrogen and oxygen) take place at high temperatures (say  $500^\circ$ ), but, so far as we can tell, not at ordinary temperatures?

(6) The rate of change of a radioactive element is represented by  $dN/dt = -rN$  where  $N$  denotes the number of atoms present at the time  $t$ , and  $r$  is a constant. Show that the law of radioactive change follows the "compound interest law".

## § 21. Successive Differentiation.

The differential coefficient derived from any function of a variable may be either another function of the variable, or a constant. The new function may be differentiated again in order to obtain the second differential coefficient. We can obtain the third and higher derivatives in the same way. Thus, if  $y = x^3$ ,

The first derivative is,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2$ ; -

The second derivative is,  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 6x$ ;

The third derivative is,  $\frac{d^3y}{dx^3} = 6$ ;

The fourth derivative is,  $\frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = 0$ .

It will be observed that each differentiation reduces the index

of the power by unity. If the index  $n$  is a positive integer the number of derivatives is finite.

In the symbols  $\frac{d^2}{dx^2}(y)$ ,  $\frac{d^3}{dx^3}(y)\dots$ , the superscripts simply denote that the differentiation has been repeated 2, 3... times. In differential notation we may write these results

$$d^2y = 6x \cdot dx^2; d^3y = 6dx^3; \dots$$

The symbol  $dx^2$ ,  $dx^3\dots$ , meaning  $dx \cdot dx$ ,  $dx \cdot dx \cdot dx\dots$ , must not be confused with  $dx^2 = d(x^2) = 2x \cdot dx$ ;  $dx^3 = d(x^3) = 3x^2 \cdot dx\dots$

The successive differential coefficients sometimes repeat themselves; for instance, on differentiating

$$y = \sin x$$

we obtain successively

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \cos x; \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -\sin x; \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} = -\cos x; \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = \sin x; \dots$$

The fourth derivative is thus a repetition of the original function, the process of differentiation may thus be continued without end, every fourth derivative resembling the original function. The simplest case of such a repetition is

$$y = e^x,$$

which furnishes

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = e^x; \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = e^x; \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} = e^x; \dots$$

The differential coefficients are all equal to the original function and to each other.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y = \log x$ ; show that  $d^4y/dx^4 = -6/x^4$ .

(2) If  $y = x^n$ ; show that  $d^4y/dx^4 = n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)x^{n-4}$ .

(3) If  $y = x^{-2}$ ; show that  $d^3y/dx^3 = -24x^{-5}$ .

(4) If  $y = \log(x+1)$ ; show that  $d^3y/dx^3 = -(x+1)^{-2}$ .

(5) Show that every fourth derivative in the successive differentiation of  $y = \cos x$  repeats itself.

Just as the first derivative of  $x$  with respect to  $t$  measures a velocity, the second differential coefficient of  $x$  with respect to  $t$  measures an acceleration (page 17). For instance, if a material<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> A material point is a fiction much used in applied mathematics for purposes of calculation, just as the atom is in chemistry. An atom may contain an infinite number of "material points" or particles.

point,  $P$ , move in a straight line  $AB$  (Fig. 8) so that its distance,  $s$ , from a fixed point  $O$  is given by the equation  $s = a \sin t$ , where  $a$  represents the distance  $OA$  or  $OB$ , show that the acceleration

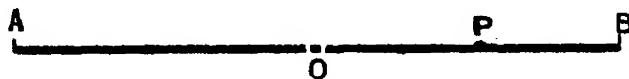


FIG. 8.

due to the force acting on the particle is proportional to its distance from the fixed point. The velocity,  $V$ , is evidently

$$V = \frac{ds}{dt} = a \cos t; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

and the acceleration,  $F$ , is

$$F = \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -a \sin t = -s, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

the negative sign showing that the force is attractive, tending to lessen the distance of the moving point from  $O$ . To obtain some idea of this motion find a set of corresponding values of  $F$ ,  $s$  and  $V$  from Table XIV., page 609, and (1) and (2) above. The result is

If $t =$	0	$\frac{1}{2}\pi$	$\pi$	$\frac{3}{2}\pi$	$2\pi \dots$
$V =$	$a$	0	$-a$	0	$a \dots$
$s =$	0	$a$	0	$-a$	$0 \dots$
$F =$	0	$-a$	0	$a$	$0 \dots$
$P$ is at	$O$	$B$	$O$	$A$	$O \dots$

A careful study of these facts will convince the reader that the point is oscillating regularly in a straight line, alternately right and left of the point  $O$ . In this sense, the equation  $d^2s/dt^2 = -s$  describes the motion of the particle. It is called an **equation of motion**. An equation like  $ds/dt = a \cos t$ , or  $d^2s/dt^2 = -s$ , containing differentials or differential coefficients is called a **differential equation**.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If a body falls from a vertical height according to the law  $s = \frac{1}{2}gt^2$ , where  $g$  represents the acceleration due to the earth's gravity, show that  $g$  is equal to the second differential coefficient of  $s$  with respect to  $t$ .

(2) If the distance traversed by a moving point in the time  $t$  be denoted by the equation  $s = at^2 + bt + c$  (where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are arbitrary constants), show that the acceleration is constant.

(3) Experiments show that the velocity acquired by a body in falling from a height  $s$  is given by the expression  $V^2 = 2g(s - s_0)$ , where  $g$  denotes the acceleration of gravitation at the earth's surface, and  $r$  the radius of the

earth. Show that the acceleration of a body at different distances from the earth's centre is inversely as the square of its distance (Newton's law). Hint. Differentiate the equation as it stands; divide by  $dt$  and cancel out the  $v$  on one side of the equation with  $ds/dt$  on the other. Hence,  $d^2s/dt^2 = -gr^2/s^2$  remains. Now show that if a body falls freely from an infinite distance the maximum velocity with which it can reach the earth is less than seven miles per second, neglecting the resistance of the air. In the original equation,  $s_0$  is  $\infty$ , and  $s = r = 3,962$  miles;  $g = 32\frac{1}{2}$  feet =  $0.00609$  miles.  $\therefore$  Ansr. =  $6.95$  miles per sec.

(4) Show that the motion of a point at a distance  $s = a \cos qt$  from a certain fixed point is given by the equation  $d^2s/dt^2 = -q^2s$ .

(5) Show that the first and second derivatives of De la Roche's vapour pressure formula,  $p = ab^{\theta/(m+n\theta)}$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $m$ , and  $n$  are constants, are

$$\frac{dp}{d\theta} = \frac{m \log b}{(m+n\theta)^2} ab^{\frac{\theta}{m+n\theta}}; \quad \frac{d^2p}{d\theta^2} = \frac{m \log b \{m \log b - 2n(m+n\theta)\}}{(m+n\theta)^3} ab^{\frac{\theta}{m+n\theta}}.$$

Fortunately, in applying the calculus to practical work, only the first and second derivatives are often wanted, the third and fourth but seldom. The calculation of the higher differential coefficients may be a laborious process. **Leibnitz's theorem**, named after its discoverer, helps to shorten the operation. It also furnishes us with the general or  $n$ th derivative of the function which is useful in discussions upon the theory of the subject. We shall here regard it as an exercise upon successive differentiation. The direct object of Leibnitz's theorem is to find the  $n$ th differential coefficient of the product of two functions of  $x$  in terms of the differential coefficients of each function.

On page 40, the differential coefficient of the product of two variables was shown to be

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d(uv)}{dx} = v \frac{du}{dx} + u \frac{dv}{dx},$$

where  $u$  and  $v$  are functions of  $x$ . By successive differentiation and analogy with the binomial theorem (1), page 36, it may be shown that

$$\frac{d^n(uv)}{dx^n} = v \frac{d^n u}{dx^n} + n \frac{dv}{dx} \cdot \frac{d^{n-1}u}{dx^{n-1}} + \dots + u \frac{d^n v}{dx^n} \quad (1)$$

The reader must himself prove the formula, as an exercise, by comparing the values of  $d^2(uv)/dx^2$ ;  $d^3(uv)/dx^3$ ; ..., with the developments of  $(x+h)^2$ ;  $(x+h)^3$ ; ..., of page 36.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y = x^4 \cdot e^{ax}$ , find the value of  $d^3y/dx^3$ . Substitute  $x^4$  and  $e^{ax}$  respectively for  $v$  and  $u$  in (1). Thus,

$$v = x^4; \therefore dv/dx = 4x^3; d^2v/dx^2 = 12x^2; d^3v/dx^3 = 24x;$$

$$u = e^{ax}; \therefore du/dx = ae^{ax}; d^2u/dx^2 = a^2e^{ax}; d^3u/dx^3 = a^3e^{ax}.$$



From (1)

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d^3y}{dx^3} &= v \frac{d^3u}{dx^3} + n \frac{dv}{dx} \cdot \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} \cdot \frac{d^2v}{dx^2} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} + u \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3!} \cdot \frac{d^3v}{dx^3}; \\ &= e^{ax} \left( a^3v + 3a^2 \frac{dv}{dx} + 3a \frac{d^2v}{dx^2} + \frac{d^3v}{dx^3} \right); \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (2) \\ &= e^{ax} (a^3x^4 + 12a^2x^3 + 36ax^2 + 24x).\end{aligned}$$

(2) If  $y = \log x$ , show that  $d^5y/dx^5 = -5!/x^6$ .

If we pretend, for the time being, that the symbols of operation  $\frac{d}{dx}$ ,  $\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^2$ ,  $\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^3$ , in (2), represent the magnitudes of an operation, in an algebraic sense, we can write

$$\frac{d^3(e^{ax}v)}{dx^3} = e^{ax} \left( a + \frac{d}{dx} \right)^3 v = e^{ax} (a + D)^3 v, \quad (3)$$

instead of (2), and substituting  $D$  for  $\frac{d}{dx}$ . The expression  $(a + D)^3$  is supposed to be developed by the binomial theorem, page 36, and  $dv/dx$ ,  $d^2v/dx^2$ , ..., substituted in place of  $Dv$ ,  $D^2v$ , ..., in the result. Equation (3) would also hold good if the index 3 were replaced by any integer, say  $n$ . This result is known as the *symbolic form of Leibnitz's theorem*.

## § 22. Partial Differentiation.

Up to the present time we have been principally occupied with functions of one independent variable  $x$ , such that

$$u = f(x);$$

but functions of two, three or more variables may occur, say

$$u = f(x, y, z, \dots),$$

where the variables  $x, y, z, \dots$  are independent of each other. Such

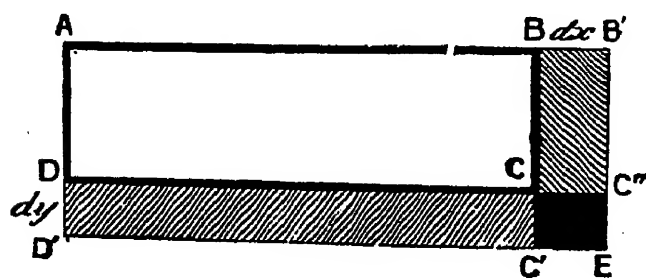


FIG. 9.

functions are common. As illustrations, it might be pointed out that the area of a triangle depends on its base and altitude; the volume of a rectangular box depends on its three dimensions; and the volume of a gas depends on the temperature and pressure.

### I. Differentials.

To find the differential of a function of two independent variables. This can be best done in the following manner, partly

graphic and partly analytical. In Fig. 9, the area  $u$  of the rectangle  $ABCD$ , with the sides  $x, y$ , is given by the function

$$u = xy.$$

Since  $x$  and  $y$  are independent of each other, the one may be supposed to vary, while the other remains unchanged. The function, therefore, ought to furnish two differential coefficients, the one resulting from a variation in  $x$ , and the other from a variation in  $y$ .

First, let the side  $x$  vary while  $y$  remains unchanged. The area is then a function of  $x$  alone.  $y$  remains constant.

$$\therefore (du)_y = ydx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where  $(du)_y$  represents the area of the rectangle  $BB'C''C$ . The subscript denoting that  $y$  is constant.

Second, in the same way, suppose the length of the side  $y$  changes, while  $x$  remains constant, then

$$(du)_x = xdy, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

where  $(du)_x$  represents the area of the rectangle  $DD'C'C$ . Instead of using the differential form of these variables, we may write the differential coefficients

$$\left(\frac{du}{dx}\right)_y = y; \text{ and } \left(\frac{du}{dy}\right)_x = x; \text{ or } \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = y; \text{ and } \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = x,$$

in C. G. J. Jacobi's notation, where  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$  is the symbol of differentiation when all the variables, other than  $x$ , are constant. Substituting these values of  $x$  and  $y$  in (1) and (2), we obtain

$$(du)_y = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx; \quad (du)_x = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy.$$

Lastly, let us allow  $x$  and  $y$  to vary simultaneously, the total increment in the area of the rectangle is evidently represented by the figure  $D'EB'BCD$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Incr. } u &= BB'CC'' + DD'CC' + CC'C''E \\ &= ydx + xdy + dx \cdot dy. \end{aligned}$$

Neglecting infinitely small magnitudes of the second order, we get

$$du = ydx + xdy; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

or

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

which is also written in the form

$$du = \left(\frac{du}{dx}\right)_y dx + \left(\frac{du}{dy}\right)_x dy. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

In equations (3) and (4),  $du$  is called the **total differential** of the function ;  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}dx$  the **partial differential** of  $u$  with respect to  $x$  when  $y$  is constant ; and  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}dy$  the partial differential of  $u$  with respect to  $y$  when  $x$  is constant. Hence the rule: The total differential of two (or more) independent variables is equal to the sum of their partial differentials.

The physical meaning of this rule is that the total force acting on a body at any instant is the sum of every separate action. When several forces act upon a material particle, each force produces its own motion independently of all the others. The actual velocity of the particle is called the *resultant* velocity, and the several effects produced by the different forces are called the *component* velocities. There is here involved an important principle—the principle of **the mutual independence of different reactions**; or the principle of the coexistence of different reactions—which lies at the base of physical and chemical dynamics. The principle might be enunciated in the following manner:—

*When a number of changes are simultaneously taking place in any system, each one proceeds as if it were independent of the others ; the total change is the sum of all the independent changes.* Otherwise expressed, the total differential is equal to the sum of the partial differentials representing each change. The mathematical process thus corresponds with the actual physical change.

To take a simple illustration, a man can swim at the rate of two miles an hour, and a river is flowing at the rate of one mile an hour. If the man swims down-stream, the river will carry him one mile in one hour, and his swimming will carry him two miles in the same time. Hence the man's actual rate of progress down-stream will be three miles an hour. If the man had started to swim up-stream against the current, his actual rate of progress would be the difference between the velocity of the stream and his rate of swimming. In short, the man would travel at the rate of one mile an hour against the current.

This means that the total change in  $u$ , when  $x$  and  $y$  vary, is made up of two parts: (i) the change which would occur in  $u$  if  $x$  alone varied, and (ii) the change which would occur in  $u$  if  $y$  alone varied.

Total variation = variation due to  $x$  alone + variation due to  $y$  alone.

If the meaning of the different terms in

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy$$

is carefully noted, it will be found that *the equation is really expressed in differential notation*, not differential coefficients. The partial derivative  $\partial u/\partial x$  represents the *rate* of change in the magnitude of  $u$  when  $x$  is increased by an amount  $\partial x$ ,  $y$  being constant; similarly  $\partial u/\partial y$  stands for the *rate* of change in the magnitude of  $u$  when  $y$  is increased by an amount  $\partial y$ ,  $x$  being constant. The rate of change  $\partial u/\partial x$  multiplied by  $dx$ , furnishes the *amount* of change in the magnitude of  $u$  when  $x$  increases by an amount  $dx$ ,  $y$  being constant; and similarly  $(\partial u/\partial y) dy$  is the magnitude of the change  $u$  when  $y$  increases an amount  $dy$ ,  $x$  being maintained constant.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $u = x^3 + x^2y + y^3$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 3x^2 + 2xy; \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = x^2 + 3y^2; \quad \therefore du = (3x^2 + 2xy)dx + (x^2 + 3y^2)dy.$$

(2) If  $u = x \log y$ ;  $du = \log y \cdot dx + x \cdot dy/y$ .

(3) If  $u = \cos x \cdot \sin y + \sin x \cdot \cos y$ ;

$$du = (dx + dy)(\cos x \cos y - \sin x \sin y) = (dx + dy)\{\cos(x + y)\}.$$

(4) If  $u = x^y$ ;  $du = yx^{y-1}dx + x^y \log x dy$ .

(5) The differentiation of a function of three independent variables may be left as an exercise to the reader. Neglecting quantities of a higher order, if  $u$  be the volume of a rectangular parallelopiped<sup>1</sup> having the three dimensions  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$ , independently variable, then  $u = xyz$ , and

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} dz; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

or an infinitely small increment in the volume of the solid is the sum of the infinitely small increments resulting when each variable changes independently of the others. Show that

$$du = yzdx + xzdy + xydz. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

(6) If the relation between the pressure  $p$ , and volume  $v$ , and temperature  $\theta$  of a gas is given by the gas law  $pv = RT$ , show that the total change in pressure for a simultaneous change of volume and temperature is

$$\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}\right)_\theta = -\frac{RT}{v^2} = -\frac{p}{v}; \quad \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v = \frac{R}{v} = \frac{p}{T}; \quad \therefore dp = -\frac{p}{v}dv + \frac{p}{T}dT.$$

This expression is only true when the changes  $dT$  and  $dv$  are made infinitesimal. The observed and calculated values of  $dp$ , arranged side by side

<sup>1</sup> Mis-spelt "parallelopiped" by false analogy with "parallelogram". I follow the will of custom—*quem penes arbitrium est et ius et norma loquendi*. Etymologically the word should be spelt "parallelepiped". It only adds new interest to learn that the word is derived from "παράλληλεπιδεδον" used by Plutarch and others; and makes one lament the decline of classics.

in the following table (from J. Perry's *The Steam Engine*, London, 564, 1904), show that even when  $dv$  and  $dT$  are relatively large, the observed values agree pretty well with the calculated results, but the error becomes less and less as  $dT$  and  $dv$  are made smaller and smaller:—

$T$	$\frac{dT}{\text{by difference.}}$	$v$	$\frac{dv}{\text{by difference.}}$	$p$ Obs.	$dp$	
					Calc.	Obs.
500	—	14.4	—	2000	—	—
501	1.0	14.5	0.1	1990.2	-9.8	-9.9
500.1	0.1	14.41	0.01	1999.2	-1.0	-0.90
500.01	0.01	14.40	0.001	1999.9	-0.1	-0.10

(7) Clairaut's formula for the attraction of gravitation,  $g$ , at different latitudes,  $L$ , on the earth's surface, and at different altitudes,  $H$ , above mean tide level, is

$$g = 980.6056 - 2.5028 \cos 2L - 0.000003H, \text{ dynes.}$$

Discuss the changes in the force of gravitation and in the weight of a substance with change of locality. Note, "weight" is nothing more than a measure of the force of gravitation.

## II. Differential Coefficients.

To find the differential coefficient of a function of two independent variables. If the variables  $x$  and  $y$  are both functions of  $t$  (say), we may pass directly from differentials to differential coefficients by dividing through with  $dt$ , thus

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt},$$

which may also be written

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \left( \frac{du}{dx} \right)_y \frac{dx}{dt} + \left( \frac{du}{dy} \right)_x \frac{dy}{dt} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

In words, the total variation of a function of  $x$  and  $y$  is equal to the partial derivative of the function when  $y$  is constant multiplied by the rate of variation of  $x$ , added to the partial derivative of the function when  $x$  is constant multiplied by the rate of variation of  $y$ . If the function remains constant while its variables change, the total rate of change of the function is zero,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} = 0 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

Examples of this will be given very shortly.

When there is likely to be any doubt as to what variables have been assumed constant, a subscript is appended to the lower corner

on the right of the bracket. The subscripts can only be omitted when there is no possibility of confusing the variables which have been assumed constant. For example, the expression  $\partial C_v / \partial T$  may have one of three meanings.

$$\left(\frac{dC_v}{dT}\right)_v; \left(\frac{dC_v}{dT}\right)_p; \left(\frac{dC_v}{dT}\right)_\phi.$$

Perry suggests<sup>1</sup> the use of the alternative symbols

$$\frac{\partial C_v}{\partial_v T}; \frac{\partial C_v}{\partial_p T}; \frac{\partial C_v}{\partial_\phi T}$$

I have just explained the meanings of the partial derivatives of  $u$  with respect to  $x$  and  $y$ . Let me again emphasize the distinction between the partial differential coefficient  $\partial u / \partial x$ , and the differential coefficient  $du / dx$ . In  $\partial u / \partial x$ ,  $y$  is treated as a constant; in  $du / dx$ ,  $y$  is treated as a function of  $x$ . The partial derivative denotes the rate of change of  $u$  per unit change in the value of  $x$  when the other variable or variables remain constant;  $du / dx$  represents the *total* rate of change of  $u$  when all the variables change simultaneously.

EXAMPLE.—If  $y$  and  $u$  are functions of  $x$  such that

$$y = \sin x; u = x \sin x, \quad (10)$$

we can write the last expression in several ways. The rate of change of  $u$  with respect to  $x$  ( $y$  constant) and to  $y$  ( $x$  constant) will depend upon the way  $y$  is compounded with  $x$ . The total rate of change of  $u$  with respect to  $x$  will be the same in all cases. For example, we get, from equations (10),

$$u = xy; \therefore du = y \cdot dx + x \cdot dy; u = x \sin x; \therefore du = (x \cos x + \sin x) dx;$$

$$u = \sin^{-1} y \cdot \sin x; \therefore du = \sin^{-1} y \cdot \cos x \cdot dx + \sin x \cdot (1 - y^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} dy.$$

The partial derivatives are all different, but  $du / dx$ , in every case, reduces to  $\sin x + x \cos x$ .

Many illustrations of functions with properties similar to those required in order to satisfy the conditions of equation (8) may occur to the reader. The following is typical:—When rhombic crystals are heated they may have different coefficients of expansion in different directions. A cubical portion of one of these crystals at one temperature is not necessarily cubical at another. Suppose a rectangular parallelepiped is cut from such a crystal, with faces parallel to the three axes of dilation. The volume of the crystal is

$$v = xyz,$$

---

<sup>1</sup> J. Perry, *Nature*, 66, 53, 271, 520, 1902; T. Muir, same references.



(6) If  $x$  and  $y$  are functions of  $t$ , show that on differentiation of  $u = xy$  with respect to  $t$ ,

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dt}; \quad \frac{du}{dy} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \cdot \frac{dt}{dy} \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (13)$$

A result obtained in a different way on page 44.

### § 23. Euler's Theorem on Homogeneous Functions.

One object of Euler's theorem is to eliminate certain arbitrary conditions from a given relation between the variables and to build up a new relation free from the restrictions due to the presence of arbitrary functions. I shall however revert to this subject later on. Euler's theorem also helps us to shorten the labour involved in making certain computations. According to Euler's theorem: *In any homogeneous function, the sum of the products of each variable with the partial differential coefficients of the original function with respect to that variable is equal to the product of the original function with its degree.* In other words, if  $u$  is a homogeneous function<sup>1</sup> of the  $n$ th degree, Euler's theorem states that if

$$u = \Sigma ax^{\alpha}y^{\beta} \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (1)$$

when  $\alpha + \beta = n$ , then<sup>2</sup>

$$x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = nu \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (2)$$

The proof is instructive. By differentiation of the homogeneous function,

$$u = ax^{\alpha}y^{\beta} + bx^{\alpha_1}y^{\beta_1} + \dots = \Sigma ax^{\alpha}y^{\beta},$$

when  $\alpha + \beta = \alpha_1 + \beta_1 = \dots = n$ , we obtain

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \Sigma a \alpha x^{\alpha-1}y^{\beta}; \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \Sigma a \beta x^{\alpha}y^{\beta-1}.$$

Hence, finally, by multiplying the first with  $x$ , and the second with  $y$ , and adding the two results, we obtain

$$x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \Sigma a(\alpha + \beta)x^{\alpha}y^{\beta} = n \Sigma ax^{\alpha}y^{\beta} = nu.$$

The theorem may be extended to include any number of variables

<sup>1</sup> An homogeneous function is one in which all the terms containing the variables have the same degree. Examples:  $x^2 + bxy + y^2$ ;  $x^4 + xyz^2 + x^3y + x^2z^2$  are homogeneous functions of the second and fourth degrees respectively.

<sup>2</sup> The sign " $\Sigma$ " is to be read "the sum of all terms of the same type as . . .," or here "the sum of all terms containing  $x$ ,  $y$  and constants". The symbol " $\Pi$ " is sometimes used in the same way for "the product of all terms of the type".



so that if

$$u = \Sigma x^n f\left(\frac{y}{x}, \frac{z}{x}, \dots\right) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

we may write down at once,

$$x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \dots = nu \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

and we have got rid of the conditions imposed upon  $u$  in virtue of the arbitrary function  $f(\dots)$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $u = x^2y + xy^2 + 3xyz$ , then  $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + z \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 3u$ . Prove this result by actual differentiation. It of course follows directly from Euler's theorem, since the equation is homogeneous and of the third degree.

(2) If  $u = \frac{x^3 + x^2y + y^3}{x^2 + xy + y^2}$ ;  $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = u$ , since the equation is of the first degree and homogeneous.

(3) If  $u = f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$ , show that  $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$ . Here  $n$  in (3) is zero. Prove the result by actual differentiation.

## § 24. Successive Partial Differentiation.

We can get the higher partial derivatives by combining the operations of successive and partial differentiation. Thus when

$$u = x^2 + y^2 + x^2y^3,$$

the first derivatives of  $u$  with respect to  $x$ , when  $y$  is constant, and to  $y$ , when  $x$  is constant are respectively

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 2x + 2y^3x; \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 2y + 3x^2y^2; \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

repeating the differentiation,

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 2(1 + y^3); \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 2(1 + 3x^2y), \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

If we had differentiated  $\partial u / \partial x$  with respect to  $y$ , and  $\partial u / \partial y$  with respect to  $x$ , we should have obtained two identical results, viz. :—

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} = 6y^2x, \text{ and } \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = 6y^2x. \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

*The higher partial derivatives are independent of the order of differentiation.* By differentiation of  $\partial u / \partial x$  with respect to  $y$ ,

assuming  $x$  to be constant, we get  $\frac{\partial\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)}{\partial y}$ , which is written  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x}$ ; on the other hand, by the differentiation of  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$  with re-

spect to  $x$ , assuming  $y$  to be constant, we obtain  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y}$ . That is to say

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (4)$$

This was only proved in (3) for a special case. As soon as the reader has got familiar with the idea of differentiation, he will no doubt be able to deduce the general proof for himself, although it is given in the regular text-books. The result stated in (4) is of great importance.

EXAMPLE.—If  $y = e^{ax + \beta t + \gamma}$  is to satisfy the equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = A \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} + B \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

show that  $\alpha^2 = A\beta^2 + B\beta$ , where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ , are constants. Hint. First find the three derivatives and substitute in the second equation; reduce.

## § 25. Complete or Exact Differentials.

To find the condition that  $u$  may be a function of  $x$  and  $y$  in the equation

$$du = Mdx + Ndy, \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (5)$$

where  $M$  and  $N$  are functions of  $x$  and  $y$ . We have just seen that if  $u$  is a function of  $x$  and  $y$

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy, \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (6)$$

that is to say, by comparing (5) and (6)

$$M = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}; \quad N = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}.$$

Differentiating the first with respect to  $y$ , and the second with respect to  $x$ , we have, from (4)

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (7)$$

In text-books on differential equations this condition is shown to be necessary and sufficient in order that certain equations may be solved, or “integrated” as it is called. Equation (7) is called **Euler’s criterion of integrability**. An equation that satisfies this condition is said to be a **complete or an exact differential**.

EXAMPLE.—Show that  $ydx - xdy = 0$ , is not exact, and that  $ydx + xdy = 0$  is a complete differential. Hint.  $\partial M/\partial y = \partial y/\partial y$ ; and  $\partial N/\partial x = -\partial x/\partial x$ ; hence, in the first case,  $\partial M/\partial y$  is not equal to  $\partial N/\partial x$ , and therefore the equation is not exact; etc.

### § 26. Integrating Factors.

The equation

$$Mdx + Ndy = 0 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

can always be made exact by multiplying through with some function of  $x$  and  $y$ , called an integrating factor. ( $M$  and  $N$  are supposed to be functions of  $x$  and  $y$ .)

Since  $M$  and  $N$  are functions of  $x$  and  $y$ , (8) may be written

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{M}{N} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

or the variation of  $y$  with respect to  $x$  is as  $-M$  is to  $N$ ; that is to say,  $x$  is some function of  $y$ , say

$$f(x, y) = a,$$

then from (5), page 69,

$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial y} dy = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

By a transformation of (10), and a comparison of the result with (9), we find that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial y}} = -\frac{M}{N} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (11)$$

Hence

$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x} = \mu M; \text{ and } \frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial y} = \mu N, \quad . \quad . \quad (12)$$

where  $\mu$  is either a function of  $x$  and  $y$ , or else a constant. Multiplying the original equation by the integrating factor  $\mu$ , and substituting the values of  $\mu M$ ,  $\mu N$  obtained in (12), we obtain

$$\frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f(x, y)}{\partial y} dy = 0,$$

which fulfils the condition of exactness. The function  $f(x, y)$  is to be derived in any particular case from the given relation between  $x$  and  $y$ .

EXAMPLE.—Show that the equation  $ydx - xdy = 0$  becomes exact when multiplied by the integrating factor  $1/y^2$ .

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{y^2}; \quad \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{y^2}.$$

Hence  $\partial M/\partial y = \partial N/\partial x$ , the condition required by (7). In the same way show that  $1/xy$  and  $1/x^2$  are also integrating factors.

Integrating factors are very much used in solving certain forms of differential equations (*q.v.*), and in certain important equations which arise in thermodynamics.

### § 27. Illustrations from Thermodynamics.

As a first approximation we may assume that the change of state of every homogeneous liquid, or gaseous substance, is completely defined by some law connecting the pressure,  $p$ , volume,  $v$ , and temperature,  $T$ . This law, called the *characteristic equation*, or the *equation of state* of the substance, has the form

$$f(p, v, T) = 0. \quad (1)$$

Any change, therefore, is completely determined when any two of these three variables are known. Thus, we may have

$$p = f_1(v, T); \quad v = f_2(p, T); \quad \text{or,} \quad T = f_3(p, v). \quad (2)$$

Confining our attention to the first, we obtain, by partial differentiation,

$$dp = \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}\right)_T dv + \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v dT, \quad (3)$$

The first partial derivative on the right represents the coefficient of elasticity of the gas, the second is nothing but the so-called coefficient of increase of pressure with temperature at constant volume. If the change takes place at constant pressure,  $dp = 0$ , and (3) may be written in the forms

$$\left(\frac{dv}{dT}\right)_p = -\frac{\left(\frac{dp}{dT}\right)_v}{\left(\frac{dp}{dv}\right)_T}; \quad \text{or,} \quad \left(\frac{dp}{dT}\right)_v = -\frac{\frac{1}{v}\left(\frac{dv}{dT}\right)_p}{\frac{1}{v}\left(\frac{dv}{dp}\right)_T}. \quad (4)$$

The subscript is added to show which factor has been supposed constant during the differentiation. Note the change of  $\partial v/\partial T$  to  $dv/dT$  at constant pressure. The first of equations (4) states that the change in the volume of a gas when heated is equal to the ratio of the increase of pressure with temperature at constant volume, and the change in the elasticity of the gas; the second tells us that the ratio of the coefficients of thermal expansion and of compressibility is equal to the change in the pressure of the gas per unit rise of temperature at constant volume.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that a pressure of 60 atmospheres is required to keep unit volume of mercury at constant volume when heated  $1^\circ \text{C}$ . Coefficient of expansion of Hg  $= 0.00018 = \frac{1}{v}\left(\frac{dv}{dT}\right)_p$ ; of compressibility  $= 0.000003 = -\frac{1}{v}\left(\frac{dv}{dp}\right)_T$ . M. Planck, *Vorlesungen über Thermodynamik*. Leipzig, 8, 1897.

(2) J. Thomsen's formula for the amount of heat  $Q$  disengaged when one

molecule of sulphuric acid,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , is mixed with  $n$  molecules of water,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , is  $Q = 17860n/(1.798 + n)$  cals. Put  $a = 17860$  and  $b = 1.798$ , for the sake of brevity. If  $x$  of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  be mixed with  $y$  of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , the quantity of heat disengaged by the mixture is  $x$  times as great as when one molecule of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  unites with  $y/x$  molecules of water. Since  $y/x = n$  in Thomsen's formula  $Q = x \times ay/(bx + y)$  cals. If  $dx$  of acid is now mixed with  $x$  of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $y$  of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , show that the amount of heat liberated is

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} dx = \frac{ay^2}{(bx + y)^2} dx; \text{ or, } \frac{an^2}{(b + n)^2} dx \text{ cals.}$$

In the same way the amount of heat liberated when  $dy$  of water is added to a similar mixture is

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} dy = \frac{ab}{(b + n)^2} dy \text{ cals.}$$

Let  $Q, T, p, v$ , represent any four variable magnitudes whatever. By partial differentiation

$$dQ = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v dT + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_T dv = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_p dT + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_T dp = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v dp + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_p dv. \quad (5)$$

Equate together the second and last members of (5), and substitute the value of  $dp$  from (3), in the result. Thus,

$$\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v dT + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_T dv = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v dT + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}\right)_T dv + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_p dv. \quad (6)$$

Put  $dv = 0$ , and divide by  $dT$ ,

$$\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

Again, by partial differentiation

$$dT = \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial p}\right)_v dp + \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial v}\right)_p dv. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

Substitute this value of  $dT$  in the last two members of (5),

$$\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial p}\right)_v dp + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial v}\right)_p dv + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_T dp = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v dp + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_p dv. \quad (9)$$

Put  $dp = 0$ , and write the result

$$\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_p \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial v}\right)_p = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_p. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

By proceeding in this way, the reader can deduce a great number of relations between  $Q, T, p, v$ , quite apart from any physical meaning the letters might possess. If  $Q$  denotes the quantity of heat added to a substance during any small changes of state; and  $p, v, T$ , the pressure, volume and absolute temperature of the substance, the above formulæ are then identical with corresponding formulæ in thermodynamics. Here, however, the relations have been deduced without any reference to the theory of heat. Under these circumstances,  $(\partial Q/\partial T)_v dT$  represents the

quantity of heat required for a small rise of temperature at constant volume:  $(\partial Q/\partial T)_v$  is nothing but the specific heat of the substance at constant volume, usually written  $C_v$ ; similarly,  $(\partial Q/\partial T)_p$  is the specific heat of constant pressure, written  $C_p$ ; and  $(\partial Q/\partial v)_T$  and  $(\partial Q/\partial p)_T$  refer to the two latent heats.

These results may be applied to any substance for which the relation  $pv = RT$  holds good. In this case,

$$\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v = \frac{R}{v}, \dots; \therefore v\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v = R\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v, \dots \quad \text{by (7)}$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) A little ingenuity, and the reader should be able to deduce the so-called Reech's Theorem:

$$\gamma = \frac{C_p}{C_v} = \frac{\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}\right)_Q}{\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}\right)_T}, \quad \dots \quad (11)$$

employed by Clément and Desormes for evaluating  $\gamma$ . See any text-book on physics for experimental details. Hint. Find  $dp$  for  $v$  and  $Q$ ; and for  $v$  and  $T$  as in (3); use (7) and (10).

(2) By the definition of adiabatic and isothermal elasticities (page 118),

$$E_\phi = -v(\partial p/\partial v)_\phi; \text{ and } E_T = -v(\partial p/\partial v)_T, \text{ respectively.}$$

The subscripts  $\phi$  and  $T$  indicating, in the former case, that there has been neither gain nor loss of heat, in other words that  $Q$  has remained constant, and in the latter case, that the temperature remained constant during the process  $\partial p/\partial v$ . Hence show from the first and last members of (5), when  $Q$  is constant,

$$v\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}\right)_\phi = -\frac{v\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_p}{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v}.$$

From (7), (10) and (4), we get the important result

$$\frac{E_\phi}{E_T} = -\frac{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_p}{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}\right)_T} = \frac{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_p \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial v}\right)_p \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v}{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}\right)_T} = \frac{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_p}{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v} = \frac{C_p}{C_v} = \gamma. \quad (12)$$

According to the second law of thermodynamics, for reversible changes "the expression  $dQ/T$  is a perfect differential". It is usually written  $d\phi$ , where  $\phi$  is called the entropy of the substance. From the first two members of (5), therefore,

$$\frac{dQ}{T} = d\phi = \frac{1}{T}\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v dT + \frac{1}{T}\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_T dv, \quad \dots \quad (13)$$

is a perfect differential. From (7), page 77, therefore,

$$\frac{d}{dv}\left(\frac{1}{T} \cdot \frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v = \frac{d}{dT}\left(\frac{1}{T} \cdot \frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_T; \text{ or } \left(\frac{\partial C_v}{\partial v}\right)_T = \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial T}\right)_v - \frac{L}{T}, \quad (14)$$

where  $C_v$  has been written for  $(\partial Q/\partial T)_v$ ,  $L$  for  $(\partial Q/\partial v)_T$

According to the first law of thermodynamics, when a quantity of heat  $dQ$  is added to a substance, part of the heat energy  $dU$  is spent in the doing of internal work among the molecules of the substance and part is expended in the mechanical work of expansion,  $p \cdot dv$  against atmospheric pressure. To put this symbolically,

$$dQ = dU + p dv; \text{ or } dU = dQ - p dv. \quad (15)$$

Now  $dU$  is a perfect differential. This means that however much energy  $U$ , the substance absorbs, all will be given back again when the substance returns to its original state. In other words,  $U$  is a function of the state of the substance (see page 385). This state is determined, (2) above, when any two of the three variables  $p, v, T$ , are known.

For the first two members of (5), and the last of equations (15), therefore,

$$dU = C_v \cdot dT + L \cdot dv - p dv = C_v \cdot dT + (L - p) dv, \quad (16)$$

is a complete differential. In consequence, as before,

$$\left(\frac{\partial C_v}{\partial v}\right)_T = \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial T}\right)_v - \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v. \quad (17)$$

From (14) and (17),

$$\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v = \frac{1}{T} \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_T, \quad (18)$$

a "law" which has formed the starting point of some of the finest deductions in physical chemistry.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Establish Mayer's formula, for a perfect gas.

$$C_p - C_v = R, \quad (19)$$

Hints: (i.) Since  $pv = RT$ ,  $(\partial p / \partial T)_v = R/v$ ;  $\therefore (\partial Q / \partial v)_T = RT/v = p$ , by (18). (ii.) Evaluate  $dv$  as in (3), and substitute the result in the second and third members of (5). (iii.) Equate  $dp$  to zero. Find  $\partial v / \partial T$  from the gas equation, use (18), etc. Thus,

$$\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_T \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial T}\right)_p = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_p; \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_T \cdot \frac{R}{p} = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_p; \text{ etc.}$$

(2) Establish the so-called "Four thermodynamic relations" between  $p, v, T, \phi$ , when any two are taken as independent variables.

$$\left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial v}\right)_\phi = -\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi}\right)_v; \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial v}\right)_T = \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v; \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial p}\right)_\phi = \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial \phi}\right)_p; \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial p}\right)_T = -\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial T}\right)_p.$$

It is possible that in some future edition of this work a great deal of the matter in the next chapter will be deleted, since "graphs and their properties" appears in the curriculum of most schools. However, it is at present so convenient for reference that I have decided to let it remain.

## CHAPTER II.

### COORDINATE OR ANALYTICAL GEOMETRY.

“ Order and regularity are more readily and clearly recognised when exhibited to the eye in a picture than they are when presented to the mind in any other manner.”—DR. WHEWELL.

#### § 28. Cartesian Coordinates.

THE physical properties of a substance may, in general, be concisely represented by a geometrical figure. Such a figure furnishes an elegant method for studying certain natural changes, because the whole history of the process is thus brought vividly before the mind. At the same time the numerical relations between a series of tabulated numbers can be exhibited in the form of a picture and their true meaning seen at a glance.

Let  $xOx'$  and  $yOy'$  (Fig. 10) be two straight lines at right angles to each other, and intersecting at the point  $O$ , so as to divide the plane of this paper into four quadrants I, II, III and IV. Let  $P_1$  be any point in the first quadrant  $yOx$ ; draw  $P_1M_1$  parallel to  $Oy$  and  $P_1N$  parallel to  $Ox$ . Then, if the lengths  $OM_1$  and  $P_1M_1$  are known, the position of the point  $P$  with respect to these lines follows directly from the properties of the rectangle  $NP_1M_1O$  (Euclid, i., 34). For example, if  $OM_1$  denotes three units,  $P_1M_1$  four units, the position of the point  $P_1$  is found by marking off three units along  $Ox$  to the right and four units along  $Oy$  vertically upwards. Then by drawing  $NP_1$  parallel to  $Ox$ , and  $P_1M_1$  parallel to  $Oy$ , the position of the given point is at  $P_1$ , since,

$$P_1M_1 = ON = 4 \text{ units ; } NP_1 = OM_1 = 3 \text{ units.}$$

$x'Ox$ ,  $yOy'$  are called **coordinate axes** or “frames of reference” (Love). If the angle  $yOx$  is a right angle the axes are said to be **rectangular**. Conditions may arise when it is more convenient



to make  $yOx$  an oblique angle, the axes are then said to be **oblique**.  $xOx'$  is called the **abscissa** or **x-axis**,  $yOy'$  the **ordinate** or **y-axis**. The point  $O$  is called the **origin**;  $OM_1$  the **abscissa** of the point  $P$ , and  $P_1M_1$  the **ordinate** of the same point. In referring the position of a point to a pair of coordinate axes, the abscissa is always mentioned first,  $P_1$  is spoken of as the point whose coordinates are 3 and 4; it is written "the point  $P_1(3, 4)$ ". In memory of its inventor, René Descartes, this system of notation is sometimes styled the system of **Cartesian coordinates**.

The usual conventions of trigonometry are made with respect to the algebraic sign of a point in any of the four quadrants. Any abscissa measured from the origin to the right is positive, to the

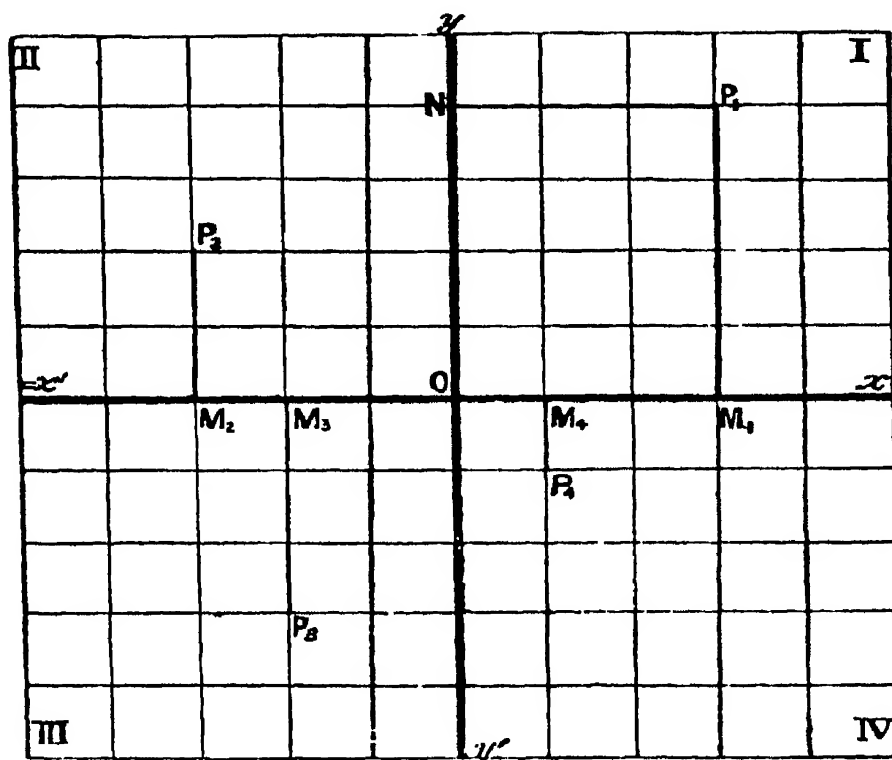


FIG. 10.—Cartesian Coordinates—Two Dimensions.

left, negative; ordinates measured vertically upward are positive, and in the opposite direction, negative. For example, if  $a$  and  $b$  be any assigned number of units corresponding respectively to the abscissa and ordinate of some given point, then the Cartesian coordinates of the point  $P_1$  are represented as  $P_1(a, b)$ , of  $P_2$  as  $P_2(-a, b)$ , of  $P_3$  as  $P_3(-a, -b)$  and of  $P_4$  as  $P_4(a, -b)$ . Points falling in quadrants other than the first are not often met with in practical work.

Thus, any point in a plane represents two things, (1) its hori-

zontal distance along some standard line of reference—the  $x$ -axis, and (2) its vertical distance along some other standard line of reference—the  $y$ -axis.

When the position of a point is determined by two variable magnitudes (the coordinates), the point is said to be *two dimensional*.

We are always making use of coordinate geometry in a rough way. Thus, a book in a library is located by its shelf and number; and the position of a town in a map is fixed by its latitude and longitude. See H. S. H. Shaw's "Report on the Development of Graphic Methods in Mechanical Science," *B. A. Reports*, 373, 1892, for a large number of examples.

### § 29. Graphical Representation.

Consider any straight or curved line  $OP$  situate, with reference to a pair of rectangular co-ordinate axes, as shown in Fig. 11. Take any abscissæ  $OM_1, OM_2, OM_3, \dots OM$ , and through  $M_1$ ,

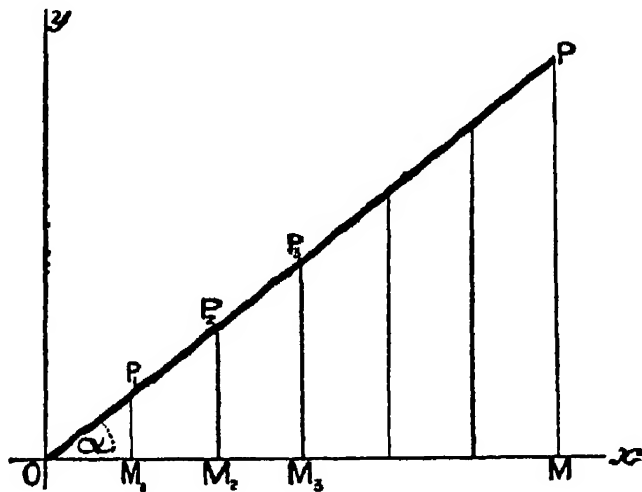


FIG. 11.

$M_2 \dots M$  draw the ordinates  $M_1P_1, M_2P_2 \dots MP$  parallel to the  $y$ -axis. The ordinates all have a definite value dependent on the slope of the line<sup>1</sup> and on the value of the abscissæ. If  $x$  be any abscissa and  $y$  any ordinate,  $x$  and  $y$  are connected by some definite law called **the equation of the curve**.

It is required to find the equation of the curve  $OP$ . In the triangle  $OPM$

$$MP = OM \tan MOP,$$

---

<sup>1</sup> Any straight or curved line when referred to its coordinate axes, is called a "curve".



By setting off on millimetre, coordinate or squared paper (Fig. 12) points  $P_1(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$ ,  $P_2(2, 1)$  ..., and drawing a line to pass through all these points, we are said to **plot the curve**. This has been done in Fig. 12. The only difference between the lines  $OP$  of Figs. 11 and 12 is in their slope towards the two axes.

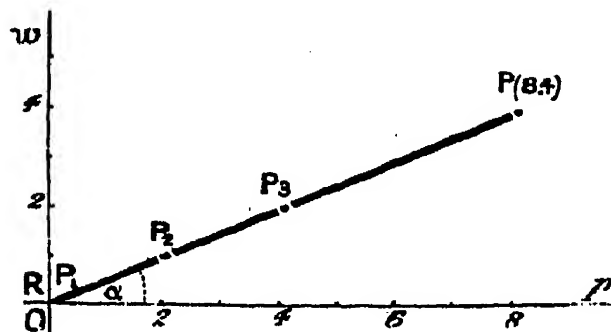


FIG. 12.—Solution of Gases in liquids.

From equation (1) we can put

$$w = p \tan \alpha, \text{ or } \tan \alpha = \frac{1}{2},$$

that is to say, an angle whose tangent is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . This can be found by reference to a table of natural tangents. It is  $26^\circ 33'$  (approx.). Putting  $\tan \alpha = m$ , we may write

$$w = mp, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

where  $m$  is a constant depending on the nature of the gas and liquid used in the experiment. Equation (5) is the mathematical expression for the solubility of a gas obeying *Henry's law*, viz.: "At constant temperature, the weight of a gas dissolved by unit volume of a liquid is proportional to the pressure". The curve  $OP$  is a graphical representation of Henry's law.

To take one more illustration. The solubility of potassium chloride,  $\lambda$ , in 100 parts of water at temperatures,  $\theta$ , between  $0^\circ$  and  $100^\circ$  is approximately as follows:

$\theta = 0^\circ,$	$20^\circ,$	$40^\circ,$	$60^\circ,$	$80^\circ,$	$100^\circ = x,$
$\lambda = 28.5,$	$39.7,$	$49.8,$	$59.2,$	$69.5,$	$79.5 = y.$

By plotting these numbers, as in the preceding example, we obtain a curve  $QP$  (Fig. 13) which, instead of passing through the origin at  $O$ , cuts the  $y$ -axis at the point  $Q$  such that

$$OQ = 28.5 \text{ units} = b \text{ (say).}$$

If  $OP'$  be drawn from the point  $O$  parallel to  $QP$ , then the equation for this line is obviously, from (5),

$$\lambda = m\theta;$$

but since the line under consideration cuts the  $y$ -axis at  $Q$ ,

$$\lambda = m\theta + b, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

where  $b = OQ$ . In these equations,  $b$ ,  $\lambda$  and  $\theta$  are known, the value of  $m$  is therefore obtained by a simple transposition of (6),

$$m = \frac{\lambda - b}{\theta} = \tan 27^\circ 43' = 0.5254.$$

Substituting in (6) the numerical values of  $m$  and  $b (= 28.5)$ ,<sup>1</sup> we can find the approximate solubility of potassium chloride at any temperature ( $\theta$ ) between  $0^\circ$  and  $100^\circ$  from the relation

$$\lambda = 0.5128\theta + 28.5.$$

The curve  $QP$  in Fig. 13 is a graphical representation of the

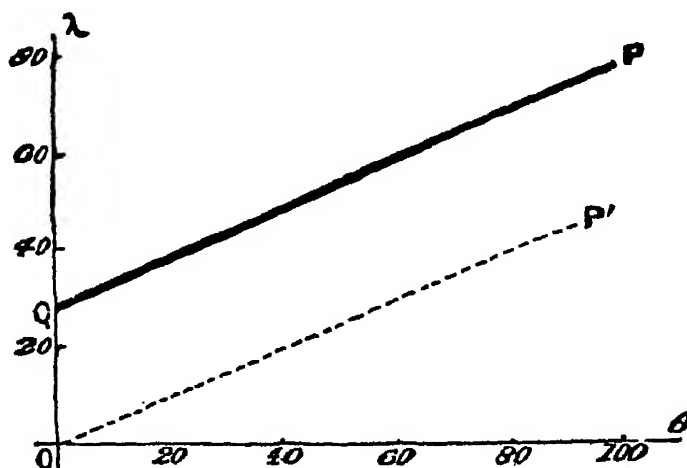


FIG. 13.—Solubility Curve for KCl in water.

variation in the solubility of KCl in water at different temperatures.

Knowing the equation of the curve, or even the form of the curve alone, the probable solubility of KCl for any unobserved temperature can be deduced, for if the solubility had been determined every  $10^\circ$  (say) instead of every  $20^\circ$ , the corresponding ordinates could still be connected in an unbroken line. The same relation holds however short the temperature interval. From this point of view the solubility curve may be regarded as the path of a point moving according to some fixed law. This law is defined by the equation of the curve, since the coordinates of every point on the curve satisfy the equation. The path described by such a point is called the **picture, locus or graph of the equation**.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Let the reader procure some “squared” paper and plot :  
 $y = \frac{1}{2}x - 2$ ;  $2y + 3x = 12$ .

(2) The following experimental results have been obtained :—

When $x =$	0,	1,	10,	20,	30, ...
$y =$	-3,	-1.56,	11.40,	25.80,	40.20, ...

<sup>1</sup> Determined by a method to be described later.

(a) Plot the curve. (b) Show (i) that the slope of the curve to the  $x$ -axis is nearly  $1.44 = \tan \alpha = \tan 55^\circ$ , (ii) that the equation to the curve is  $y = 1.44x - 3$ . (c) Measure off 5 and 15 units along the  $x$ -axis, and show that the distance of these points from the curve, measured vertically above the  $x$ -axis, represents the corresponding ordinates. (d) Compare the values of  $y$  so obtained with those deduced by substituting  $x = 5$  and  $x = 15$  in the above equation. Note the laborious and roundabout nature of process (c) when contrasted with (d). The graphic process, called *graphic interpolation* (*g.v.*), is seldom resorted to when the equation connecting the two variables is available, but of this anon.

(3) Get some solubility determinations from any chemical text-book and plot the values of the composition of the solution ( $C$ , ordinate) at different temperatures ( $\theta^\circ$ , abscissa), *e.g.*, Loewel's numbers for sodium sulphate are

$C = 5.0,$	$19.4,$	$55.0,$	$46.7,$	$44.4,$	$43.1,$	$42.2;$
$\theta^\circ = 0^\circ,$	$20^\circ,$	$34^\circ,$	$50^\circ,$	$70^\circ,$	$90^\circ,$	$103.5^\circ.$

What does the peculiar bend at  $34^\circ$  mean?

In this and analogous cases, a question of this nature has to be decided: *What is the best way to represent the composition of a solution?* Several methods are available. The right choice depends entirely on the judgment, or rather on the *finesse*, of the investigator. Most chemists (like Loewel above) follow Gay Lussac, and represent the composition of the solution as "parts of substance which would dissolve in 100 parts of the solvent". Etard found it more convenient to express his results as "parts of substance dissolved in 100 parts of saturated solution". The right choice, at this day, seems to be to express the results in molecular proportions. This allows the solubility constant to be easily compared with the other physical constants. In this way, Gay Lussac's method becomes "the ratio of the number of molecules of dissolved substance to the number, say 100, molecules of solvent"; Etard's "the ratio of the number of molecules of dissolved substance to any number, say 100, molecules of solution".

(4) Plot  $\log x = y$ , and show that logarithms of negative numbers are impossible. Hint. Put  $x = 0, e^{-2}, e^{-1}, 1, e, e^2, \infty$ , etc., and find corresponding values of  $y$ .

So many good booklets have recently been published upon "Graphical Algebra" as to render it unnecessary to speak at greater length upon the subject here.

### § 31. Properties of Straight Lines.

If equations (1) and (6) be expressed in general terms, using  $x$  and  $y$  for the variables,  $m$  and  $b$  for the constants, we can deduce the following properties for straight lines referred to a pair of coordinate axes.

I. A straight line passing through the origin of a pair of rectangular coordinate axes, is represented by the equation

$$y = mx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$



## § 31. COORDINATE OR ANALYTICAL GEOMETRY.

There are several proofs of this useful equation. Formula (10) is called the **intercept form** of the equation of the straight line, equation (8) the **tangent form**.

V. The so-called **normal or perpendicular form** of the equation of a straight line is

$$p = x \cos \alpha + y \sin \alpha, \quad (11)$$

where  $p$  denotes the perpendicular distance of the line  $BA$  (Fig. 14) from the origin  $O$ , and  $\alpha$  represents the angle which this line makes with the  $x$ -axis.

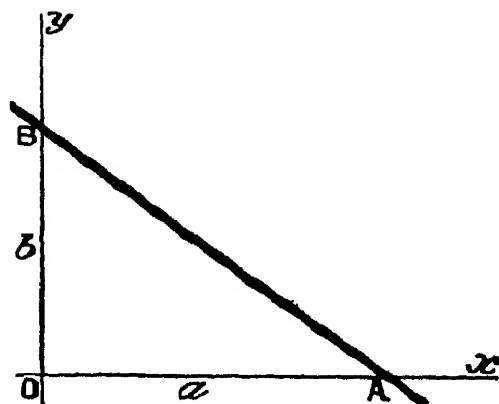


FIG. 14.

Draw  $OQ$  perpendicular to  $AB$  (Fig. 14). Take any point  $P(x, y)$  and drop a perpendicular  $PR$  on to the  $x$ -axis, draw  $RD$  parallel to  $AB$  cutting  $OQ$  in  $D$ . Drop  $PC$  perpendicular on to  $RD$ , then  $PRC = \alpha = QOA$ . Then,  $OQ = OD + PC$   $OD = x \cos \alpha$ ;  $PC = y \sin \alpha$ . Hence follows (11).

Many equations can be readily transformed into the intercept form and their geometrical interpretation seen at a glance. For instance, the equation

$$x + y = 2 \text{ becomes } \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}y = 1,$$

which represents a straight line cutting each axis at the same distance from the origin.

One way of stating Charles' law is that "the volume of a given mass of gas, kept at a constant pressure, varies directly as the temperature". If, under these conditions, the temperature be raised  $\theta^\circ$ , the volume increases the  $\frac{\theta}{273}$ rd part of what it was at the original temperature.<sup>1</sup> Let the original volume,  $v_0$ , at  $0^\circ \text{C.}$ ,

<sup>1</sup> Many students, and even some of the text-books, appear to have hazy notions on this question. According to "Guy Lussac's law" the increase in the volume of a gas at any temperature for a rise of temperature of  $1^\circ$ , is a constant fraction of its initial volume at  $0^\circ \text{C.}$ ; "J. Dalton's law" (*Manchester Memoirs*, 3, 595, 1802), on the other hand, supposes the increase in the volume of a gas at any temperature for a rise of  $1^\circ$ , is a constant fraction of its volume at that temperature (the "Compound Interest Law," in fact). The former appears to approximate closer to the truth than the latter. (See page 285.) J. B. Gay Lussac (*Annales de Chimie*, 43, 137, 1802) says that Charles had noticed this same property of gases fifteen years earlier and hence it is sometimes called Charles' law, or the law of Charles and Gay Lussac. After inspecting Charles' apparatus, Gay Lussac expressed the opinion that it was not delicate enough to establish the truth of the law in question. But then J. Priestley in his *Experiments and Observations on Different Kinds of Air* (2, 448, 1790) says that "from a very coarse experiment which I made very early I concluded that fixed and common air expanded



be unity ; the final volume  $v$ , then at  $\theta^\circ$

$$v = 1 + \frac{1}{273}\theta.$$

This equation resembles the intercept form of the equation of a straight line (10) where  $a = -273$  and  $b=1$ . The intercepts  $a$  and  $b$  may be found by putting  $x$  and  $y$ , or rather their equivalents,

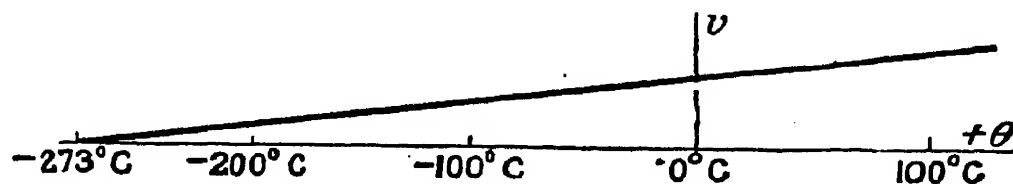


FIG. 15.

$\theta$  and  $v$ , successively equal to zero. If  $\theta = 0$ ,  $v = 1$  ; if  $v = 0$ ,  $\theta = -273$ , the well-known absolute zero (Fig. 15).

It is impossible to imagine a substance occupying no space. But this absurdity is the logical consequence of Charles' law when  $\theta = -273^\circ$ . Where is the fallacy? The answer is that Charles' law includes a "simplifying assumption". The total volume occupied by the gas really consists of two parts: (i) the volume actually occupied by the molecules of the substance; and (ii) the space in which the molecules are moving. Although we generally make  $v$  represent the total volume, in reality,  $v$  only refers to the space in which the molecules are moving, and in that case the conclusion that  $v = 0$ , when  $\theta = -273^\circ$  involves no absurdity.

No gas has been investigated at temperatures within four degrees of  $-273^\circ$ . However trustworthy the results of an interpolation

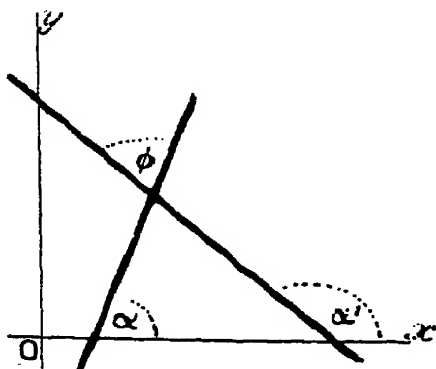


FIG. 16.

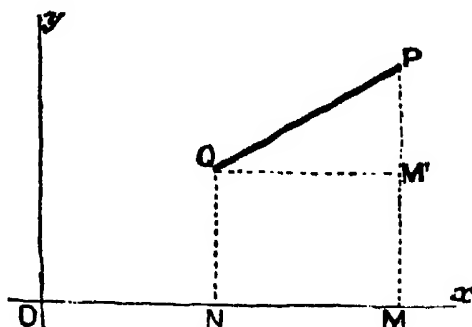


FIG. 17.

may be, when we attempt to pass *beyond* the region of measure-

---

alike with the same degree of heat". The cognomen "Priestley's law" would settle all confusion between the three designations "Dalton's," "Gay Lussac's" and "Charles'" of one law.

ment, the extrapolation, as it is called, becomes more or less hazardous. Extrapolation can only be trusted when in close proximity to the point last measured. Attempts to find the probable temperature of the sun by extrapolation have given numbers varying between the  $1,398^\circ$  of Vicaire and the  $9,000,000^\circ$  of Waterston! We cannot always tell whether or not new forces come into action when we get outside the range of observation. In the case of Charles' law, we do know that the gases change their physical state at low temperatures, and the law does not apply under the new conditions.

VI. To find the angle at the point of intersection of two curves whose equations are given. Let the equations be

$$y = mx + b; \quad y' = m'x' + b'.$$

Let  $\phi$  be the angle required (see Fig. 16),  $m = \tan \alpha$ ,  $m' = \tan \alpha'$ . From Euclid, i., 32,  $\alpha' - \alpha = \phi$ ,  $\therefore \tan(\alpha' - \alpha) = \tan \phi$ . By formula, page 612,

$$\tan \phi = \frac{\tan \alpha' - \tan \alpha}{1 + \tan \alpha \cdot \tan \alpha'} = \frac{m' - m}{1 + mm'}. \quad (12)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the angle at the point of intersection of the two lines  $x + y = 1$ , and  $y = x + 2$ .  $m = 1$ ,  $m' = -1$ ;  $\tan \phi = -\infty = -90^\circ$ .

(2) Find the angle between the lines  $3y - x = 0$ , and  $2x + y = 1$ . Ansr.  $\tan(81^\circ 52') = 7$ .

VII. To find the distance between two points in terms of their coordinates. In Fig. 17, let  $P(x_1y_1)$  and  $Q(x_2y_2)$  be the given points.

Draw  $QM'$  parallel to  $NM$ .  $OM = x_1$ ,  $MP = y_1$ ;  $ON = x_2$ ,  $NQ = y_2$ ;  $M'P = MP - MM' = MP - NQ = y_1 - y_2$ ;

$$QM' = NM = OM - ON = x_1 - x_2.$$

Since  $QM'P$  is a right-angled triangle

$$(QP)^2 = (QM')^2 + (PM')^2.$$

$$\therefore QP = \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2}. \quad (13)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the distance between the points  $(-2, 1)$  and  $(-6, -2)$  is 5 units.

(2) Show that the distance from  $(10, -18)$  to the point  $(3, 6)$  is the same as to the point  $(-5, 2)$ . Ansr. 25 units in each case.

### § 32. Curves Satisfying Conditions.

The reader should work through the following examples so as to familiarize himself with the conceptions of coordinate geometry. Many of the properties here developed for the straight line can easily be extended to curved lines.

*I. The condition that a curve may pass through a given point.* This evidently requires that the coordinates of the point should satisfy the equation of the line. Let the equation be in the tangent form

$$y = mx + b.$$

If the line is to pass through the point  $(x_1, y_1)$ ,

$$y_1 = mx_1 + b,$$

and, by subtraction,

$$(y - y_1) = m(x - x_1) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (14)$$

which is an equation of a straight line satisfying the required conditions.

EXAMPLES.—(1) The equation of a line passing through a point whose abscissa is 5 and ordinate 3 is  $y - mx = 3 - 5m$ .

(2) Find the equation of a line which will pass through the point  $(4, -4)$  and whose tangent is 2. Ansr.  $y - 2x + 12 = 0$ .

*II. The condition that a curve may pass through two given points.* Continuing the preceding discussion, if the line is to pass through  $(x_2, y_2)$ , substitute  $x_2, y_2$ , in (14)

$$(y_2 - y_1) = m(x_2 - x_1); \therefore m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}.$$

Substituting this value of  $m$  in (14), we get the equation,

$$\frac{y - y_1}{y_2 - y_1} = \frac{x - x_1}{x_2 - x_1}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (15)$$

for a straight line passing through two given points  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the equation of the straight line passing through the points  $P_1(2, 3)$  and  $P_2(4, 5)$  is  $x - y + 1 = 0$ . Hint. Substitute  $x_1 = 2, x_2 = 4, y_1 = 3, y_2 = 5$ , in (15).

(2) Find the equation of the line which passes through the points  $P_1(4, -2)$ , and  $P_2(0, -7)$ . Ansr.  $5x - 4y = 28$ .

*III. The coordinates of the point of intersection of two given lines.* Let the given equations be

$$y = mx + b; \text{ and } y = m'x + b'.$$

Now each equation is satisfied by an infinite number of pairs of values of  $x$  and  $y$ . These pairs of values are generally different in the two equations, but there can be one, and only one pair of values of  $x$  and  $y$  that satisfy the two equations, that is, the coordinates of the point of intersection. The coordinates at this point must satisfy the two equations, and this is true of no other point. The roots of these two equations, obtained by a simple

algebraic operation, are the coordinates of the point required. The point whose coordinates are

$$x = \frac{b' - b}{m - m'}; y = \frac{b'm - bm'}{m - m'} \quad (16)$$

satisfies the two equations.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the coordinates of the point of intersection of the two lines  $x + y = 1$ , and  $y = x + 2$ . Ansr.  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $y = \frac{3}{2}$ . Hint.  $m = -1$ ,  $m' = 1$ ,  $b = 1$ ,  $b' = 2$ , etc.

(2) The coordinates of the point of intersection of the curves  $3y - x = 1$ , and  $2x + y = 3$  are  $x = \frac{2}{5}$ ,  $y = \frac{7}{5}$ .

(3) Show that the two curves  $y^2 = 4x$ , and  $x^2 = 4y$  meet at the point  $x = 4$ ,  $y = 4$ .

IV. *The condition that three given lines may meet at a point.* The roots of the equations of two of the lines are the coordinates of their point of intersection, and in order that this point may be on a third line the roots of the equations of two of the lines must satisfy the equation of the third.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If three lines are represented by the equations  $5x + 3y = 7$ ,  $3x - 4y = 10$ , and  $x + 2y = 0$ , show that they will all intersect at a point whose coordinates are  $x = 2$  and  $y = -1$ . Solving the last two equations, we get  $x = 2$  and  $y = -1$ , but these values of  $x$  and  $y$  satisfy the first equation, hence these three lines meet at the point  $(2, -1)$ .

(2) Show that the lines  $3x + 5y + 7 = 0$ ;  $x + 2y + 2 = 0$ ; and  $4x - 3y - 10 = 0$ , do not pass through one point. Hint. From the first and second,  $y = 1$ ,  $x = -4$ . These values do not satisfy the last equation.

V. *The condition that two straight lines may be parallel to one another.* Since the lines are to be parallel they must make equal angles with the  $x$ -axis, i.e., angle  $\alpha' = \text{angle } \alpha$ , or  $\tan \alpha' = \tan \alpha$ ,  
 $\therefore m = m'$ , (17)

that is to say, the coefficient of  $x$  in the two equations must be equal.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the lines  $y = 3x + 9$ , and  $2y = 6x + 7$  are parallel. Hint. Show that on dividing the last equation by 2, the coefficient of  $x$  in each equation is the same.

(2) Find the equation of the straight line passing through  $(2, -1)$  parallel to  $3x + y = 2$ . Ansr.  $y + 3x = 5$ . Hint. Use (17) and (14).  $y + 1 = -3(x - 2)$ .

VI. *The condition that two lines may be perpendicular to one another.* If the angle between the lines is  $\phi = 90^\circ$ , see (12),

$$\alpha' - \alpha = 90^\circ,$$

$$\therefore \tan \alpha' = \tan (90 + \alpha) = -\cot \alpha = -\frac{1}{\tan \alpha}$$

$$\therefore m = -\frac{1}{m'}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (18)$$

or, the slope of the one line to the  $x$ -axis must be equal and opposite in sign to the reciprocal of the slope of the other.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the equation of the line which passes through the point (3, 2), and is perpendicular to the line  $y = 2x + 5$ . Ansr.  $x + 2y = 7$ . Hint. Use (18) and (14).

(2) Find the equation of the line which passes through the point (2, -4) and is perpendicular to the line  $3y + 2x - 1 = 0$ . Ansr.  $2y - 3x + 14 = 0$ .

### § 33. Changing the Coordinate Axes.

In plotting the graph of any function, the axes of reference should be so chosen that the resulting curve is represented in the most convenient position. In many problems it is necessary to

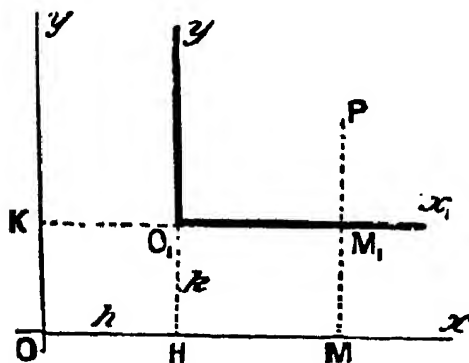


FIG. 18.—Transformation of Axes.

pass from one system of coordinate axes to another. In order to do this the equation of the given line referred to the new axes must be deduced from the corresponding equation referred to the old set of axes.

*I. To pass from any system of coordinate axes to another set parallel to the former but having a different origin.*

Let  $Ox, Oy$  (Fig. 18) be the original axes, and  $KO_1x_1, HO_1y_1$  the new axes parallel to  $Ox$  and  $Oy$ . Let  $MM_1P$  be the ordinate of any point  $P$  parallel to the axes  $Oy$  and  $O_1y_1$ . Let  $h, k$  be the coordinates of the new origin  $O_1$  referred to the old axes. Let  $(x, y)$  be the coordinates of  $P$  referred to the old axes  $Ox, Oy$ , and  $(x_1, y_1)$  its coordinates referred to the new axes. Then  $OH = h, HO_1 = k$ ,

$$x = OM = OH + HM = OH + O_1M_1 = h + x_1;$$

$$y = MP = MM_1 + M_1P = HO_1 + M_1P = k + y_1.$$

That is to say, we must substitute

$$x = h + x_1; \text{ and } y = k + y_1, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (19)$$

in order to refer a curve to a new set of rectangular axes. The new coordinates of the point  $P$  being

$$x_1 = x - h; \text{ and } y_1 = y - k. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (20)$$

EXAMPLE.—Given the point (2, 3) and the equation  $2x + 3y = 6$ , find the coordinates of the former, and the equation of the latter when referred to a set of new axes parallel to the original axes and passing through the point

3, 2). Ansr.  $x_1 = x - 3 = 2 - 3 = -1$ ;  $y_1 = y - 2 = 1$ . The position of the point on the new axes is  $(-1, 1)$ . The new equation will be  $2(3 + x_1) + 3(3 + y_1) = 0$ ;  $\therefore 2x_1 + 3y_1 + 12 = 0$ .

II. To pass from one set of axes to another having the same origin but different directions.

Let the two straight lines  $x_1O$  and  $y_1O$ , passing through  $O$  (Fig. 19), be taken as the new system of coordinates. Let the coordinates of the point  $P(x, y)$  when referred to the new axes be  $x_1, y_1$ . Draw  $MP$  perpendicular to the old  $x$ -axis, and  $M_1P$  perpendicular to the new axes, so that the angle  $MPM_1 = ROM_1 = \alpha$ ,

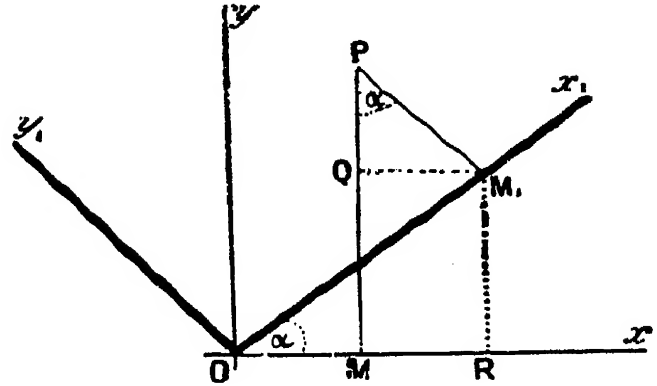


FIG. 19.—Transformation of Axes.

$$OM = x, OM_1 = x_1, MP = y, M_1P = y_1.$$

Draw  $RM_1$  perpendicular and  $QM_1$  parallel to the  $x$ -axis. Then

$$x = OM = OR - MR = OR - QM_1,$$

$$\therefore x = OM_1 \cos \alpha - M_1P \sin \alpha;$$

$$\therefore x = x_1 \cos \alpha - y_1 \sin \alpha. \quad (21)$$

Similarly  $y = MP = MQ + QP = RM_1 + QP$ ;

$$\therefore y = OM_1 \sin \alpha + M_1P \cos \alpha,$$

$$\therefore y = x_1 \sin \alpha + y_1 \cos \alpha. \quad (22)$$

Equations (21) and (22) enable us to refer the coordinates of a point  $P$  from one set of axes to another. Solving equations (21) and (22) simultaneously,

$$x_1 = x \cos \alpha + y \sin \alpha; y_1 = y \cos \alpha - x \sin \alpha. \quad (23)$$

EXAMPLE.—Find what the equation  $x_1^2 - y_1^2 = a^2$  becomes when the axes are turned through  $-45^\circ$ , the origin remaining the same. Here  $\sin(-45^\circ) = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ ;  $\cos(-45^\circ) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ . From (23),  $x_1 = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}x - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}y$ ;  $y_1 = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}x + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}y$ . Hence,  $x_1 - y_1 = -\sqrt{2}y$ ;  $x_1 + y_1 = \sqrt{2}x$ ;  $\therefore x_1^2 - y_1^2 = -2xy$ ;  $\therefore$  from the original equation,  $2xy = -a^2$ ; or,  $xy = \text{constant}$ .

In order to pass from one set of axes to another set having a different origin and different directions, the two preceding transformations must be made one after another.

### § 34. The Circle and its Equation:

There is a set of important curves whose shape can be obtained by cutting a cone at different angles. Hence the name *conic sec-*

tions. They include the parabola, hyperbola and ellipse, of which the circle is a special case. I shall describe their chief properties very briefly.

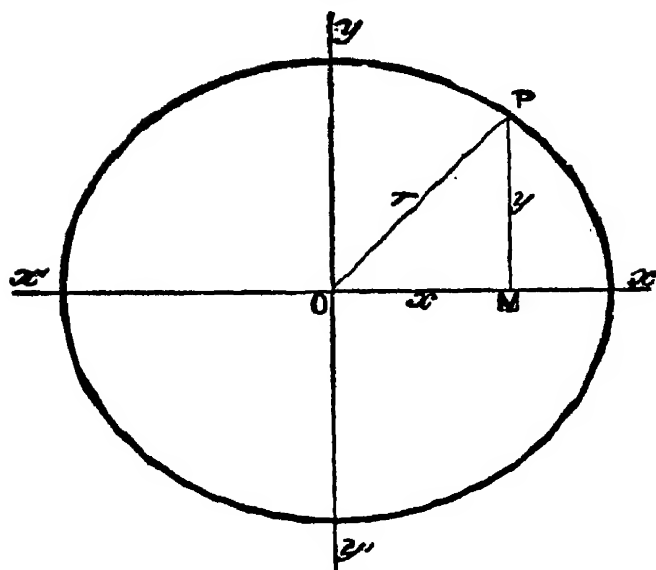


FIG. 20.—The Circle.

A circle is a curve such that all points on the curve are equi-distant from a given point. This point is called the centre, the distance from the centre to the curve is called the radius. Let  $r$  (Fig. 20) be the radius of the circle whose centre is the origin of the rectangular coordinate axes  $xOx'$  and  $yOy'$ . Take any point

$P(x, y)$  on the circle. Let  $PM$  be the ordinate of  $P$ . From the definition of a circle  $OP$  is constant and equal to  $r$ . Then by Euclid, i., 47,

$$(OM)^2 + (MP)^2 = (OP)^2, \text{ or } x^2 + y^2 = r^2, \quad (1)$$

which is said to be the equation of the circle.

In connection with this equation it must be remembered that the abscissæ and ordinates of some points have negative values, but, since the square of a negative quantity is always positive, the rule still holds good. Equation (1) therefore expresses the geometrical fact that all points on the circumference are at an equal distance from the centre.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Required the locus of a point moving in a path according to the equations  $y = a \cos t$ ,  $x = a \sin t$ , where  $t$  denotes any given interval of time. Square each equation and add,

$$y^2 + x^2 = a^2(\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t).$$

The expression in brackets is unity (19), page 611, and hence for all values of  $t$

$$y^2 + x^2 = a^2,$$

i.e., the point moves on the perimeter of a circle of radius  $a$ .

(2) To find the equation of a circle whose centre, referred to a pair of rectangular axes, has the coordinates  $h$  and  $k$ . From (19), previous paragraph,

$$(x - h)^2 + (y - k)^2 = r^2, \quad (2)$$

where  $P(x, y)$  is any point on the circumference. Note the product  $xy$  is absent. The coefficients of  $x^2$  and  $y^2$  are equal in magnitude and sign. These conditions are fulfilled by every equation to a circle. Such is

$$3x^2 + 3y^2 + 7x - 12 = 0.$$

(3) The general equation of a circle is

$$x^2 + y^2 + ax + by + c = 0. \quad (3)$$

Plot (3) on squared paper. Try the effect of omitting  $ax$  and of  $by$  separately and together. This is a sure way of getting at the meaning of the general equation.

(4) A point moves on a circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 25$ . Compare the rates of change of  $x$  and  $y$  when  $x = 3$ . If  $x = 3$ , obviously  $y = \pm 4$ . By differentiation  $dy/dt : dx/dt = -x/y = \pm \frac{3}{4}$ . The function decreases when  $x$  and  $y$  have the same sign, i.e., in the first and third quadrants, and increases in the second and fourth quadrants;  $y$  therefore decreases or increases three-quarters as fast as  $x$  according to the quadrant.

### § 35. The Parabola and its Equation.

A parabola is a curve such that any point on the curve is equidistant from a given point and a given straight line. The given point is called the *focus*, the straight line the *directrix*, the distance of any point on the curve from the focus is called the *focal radius*.  $O$  (Fig. 21) is called *vertex* of the parabola.  $AK$  is the directrix;  $OF$ ,  $FP$ ,  $FP_1 \dots$  are focal radii;  $OF = AO$ ;  $FP = KP$ ;  $FP_1 = K_1P_1 \dots$  It can now be proved that the equation of the parabola is given by the expression

$$y^2 = 4ax, \quad (1)$$

where  $a$  is a constant equal to  $AO$  in the above diagram. In words, this equation tells us that the abscissæ of the parabola are proportional to the square of the ordinates.

EXAMPLES.—(1) By a transformation of coordinates show that the parabola represented by equation (1), may be written in the form

$$x = a + by + cy^2, \quad (2)$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , are constants. Let  $x$  become  $x+h$ ;  $y=y+k$ ;  $a=j$  where  $h$ ,  $k$ , and  $j$  are constants. Substitute the new values of  $x$  and  $y$  in (1); multiply out. Collect the constants together and equate to  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  as the case might be.

(2) Investigate the shape of the parabola. By solving the equation of the parabola, it follows that

$$y = \pm 2\sqrt{ax}.$$

First. Every positive value of  $x$  gives two equal and opposite values of  $y$ , that is to say, there are two points at equal distances perpendicular to the  $x$ -axis. This being true for all values of  $x$ , the part of the curve lying on one side of the  $x$ -axis is the mirror image of that on the opposite side<sup>1</sup>; in this

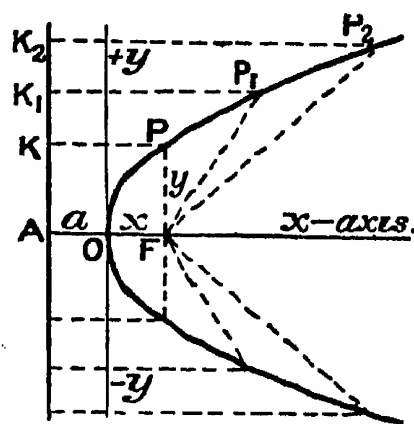


FIG. 21.

<sup>1</sup> The student of stereo-chemistry would say the two sides were "enantiomorphic".



case the  $x$ -axis is said to be *symmetrical* with respect to the parabola. Hence any line perpendicular to the  $x$ -axis cuts the curve at two points equidistant from the  $x$ -axis.

Second. When  $x = 0$ , the  $y$ -axis just touches<sup>1</sup> the curve.

Third. Since  $a$  is positive, when  $x$  is negative there is no real value of  $y$ , for no real number is known whose square is negative; in consequence, the parabola lies wholly on the right side of the  $y$ -axis.

Fourth. As  $x$  increases without limit,  $y$  approaches infinity, that is to say, the parabola recedes indefinitely from the  $x$  or symmetrical-axes on both sides.

### § 36. The Ellipse and its Equation.

An ellipse is a curve such that the sum of the distances of any point on the curve from two given points is always the same. Let  $P$  (Fig. 22) be the given point which moves on the curve  $PP_1$  so that its distance from the two fixed points  $F_1, F_2$ , called the

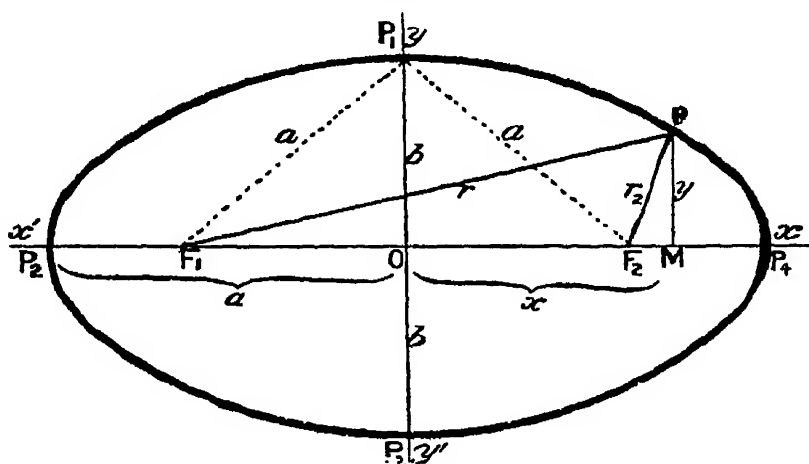


FIG. 22.—The Ellipse.

foci, has a constant value say  $2a$ . The distance of  $P$  from either focus is called the *focal radius*, or *radius vector*.  $O$  is the so-called *centre* of the ellipse. The equation of the ellipse

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

can now be deduced from the above described properties of the curve. The line  $P_2P_4$  (Fig. 22) is called the *major axis*;  $P_1P_3$  the *minor axis*, their respective lengths being  $2a$  and  $2b$ ; the magnitudes  $a$  and  $b$  are the *semi-axes*; each of the points  $P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4$ , is a *vertex*.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Let the point  $P(x, y)$  move on a curve so that the position

<sup>1</sup> Some mathematicians define a "tangent" to be a straight line which cuts the curve in two coincident points. See *The School World*, 6, 323, 1904.

of the point, at any moment, is given by the equations,  $x = a \cos t$  and  $y = b \sin t$ ; required the path described by the moving point. Square and add; since  $\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t$  is unity (page 611),  $x^2/a^2 + y^2/b^2 = 1$ . The point therefore moves on an ellipse.

(2) Investigate the shape of the ellipse. By solving the equation of the ellipse we get

$$y = \pm b \sqrt{1 - \frac{x^2}{a^2}}; \text{ and } x = \pm a \sqrt{1 - \frac{y^2}{b^2}}. \quad (2)$$

First. Since  $y^2$  must be positive,  $x^2/a^2 \leq 1$ , that is to say,  $x$  cannot be numerically greater than  $a$ . Similarly it can be shown that  $y$  cannot be numerically greater than  $b$ .

Second. Every positive value of  $x$  gives two equal and opposite values of  $y$ , that is to say, there are two points at equal distances perpendicularly above and below the  $x$ -axis. The ellipse is therefore symmetrical with respect to the  $x$ -axis. In the same way, it can be shown that the ellipse is symmetrical with respect to the  $y$ -axis.

Third. If the value of  $x$  increases from the zero until  $x = \pm a$ , then  $y = 0$ , and these two values of  $x$  furnish two points on the  $x$ -axis. If  $x$  now increases until  $x > a$ , there is no real corresponding value of  $y^2$ . Hence the ellipse lies in a strip bounded by the limits  $x = \pm a$ ; similarly it can be shown that the ellipse is bounded by the limits  $y = \pm b$ .

Obviously, if  $a = b$ , the equation of the ellipse passes into that of a circle. The circle is thus a special case of the ellipse.

The absence of first powers of  $x$  and  $y$  in the equation of the ellipse shows that the origin of the coordinates is at the "centre" of the ellipse. A term in  $xy$  shows that the principal axes—major and minor—are not generally the  $x$ - and  $y$ -axes.

### § 37. The Hyperbola and its Equation.

The hyperbola is a curve such that the difference of the distance of any point on the curve from two fixed points is always the same. Let the point  $P$  (Fig. 23) move so that the difference of its distances from two fixed points  $F, F'$ , called the *foci*, is equal to  $2a$ .  $O$  is the so-called *centre* of the hyperbola;  $OM = x$ ;  $MP = y$ ;  $OA = a$ ;  $OB = b$ .

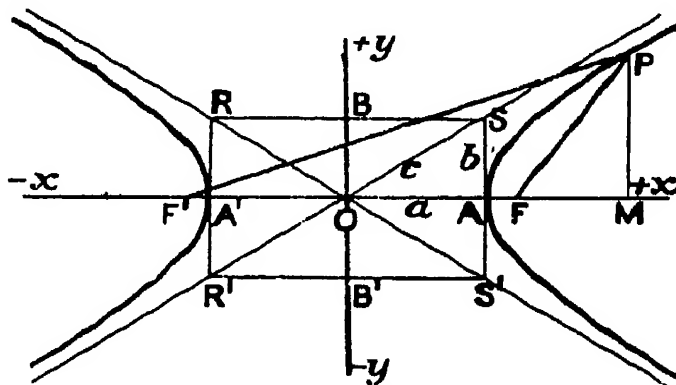


FIG. 23.—The Hyperbola.

Starting from these definitions it can be shown that the equation of the hyperbola has the form

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1. \quad (1)$$

The  $x$ -axis is called the *transverse* or *real axes* of the hyperbola; the  $y$ -axis the *conjugate* or *imaginary axes*; the points  $A, A'$  are the *vertices* of the hyperbolas,  $a$  is the *real semi-axis*,  $b$  the *imaginary semi-axis*.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the equation of the hyperbola whose origin is at its vertex is  $a^2y^2 = 2ab^2x + b^2x^2$ . Substitute  $x + a$  for  $x$  in the regular equation. Note that  $y$  does not change.

(2) Investigate the shape of the hyperbola. By solving equation (1) for  $x$ , and  $y$ , we get

$$y = \pm \frac{b}{a} \sqrt{x^2 - a^2}, \text{ and } x = \pm \frac{a}{b} \sqrt{y^2 + b^2}. \quad (2)$$

First. Since  $y^2$  must be positive,  $x^2 \geq a^2$ , or  $x$  cannot be numerically less than  $a$ . No limit with respect to  $y$  can be inferred from equation (8).

Second. For every positive value of  $x$ , there are two values of  $y$  differing only in sign. Hence these two points are perpendicular above and below the  $x$ -axis, that is to say, the hyperbola is symmetrical with respect to the  $x$ -axis. There are two equal and opposite values of  $x$  for all values of  $y$ . The hyperbola is thus symmetrical with respect to the  $y$ -axis.

Third. If the value of  $x$  changes from zero until  $x = \pm a$ , then  $y = 0$ , and these two values of  $x$  furnish two points on the  $x$ -axis. If  $x > a$ , there are two equal and opposite values of  $y$ . Similarly for every value of  $y$  there are two equal and opposite values of  $x$ . The curve is thus symmetrical with respect to both axes, and lies beyond the limits  $x = \pm a$ .

Before describing the properties of this interesting curve I shall discuss some fundamental properties of curves in general.

### § 38. The Tangent to a Curve.

We sometimes define a tangent to a curve as a straight line

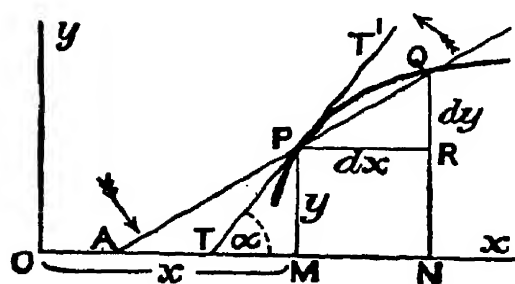


FIG. 24.

which touches the curve at two coincident points.<sup>1</sup> If, in Fig. 24,  $P$  and  $Q$  are two points on a curve such that  $MP = NR = y$ ;  $RQ = dy$ ;  $OM = x$ ;  $MN = PR = dx$ ; the straight line  $PQ = ds$ . Otherwise, the diagram explains itself. Now let the line  $APQ$  revolve about the point  $P$ . We have

already shown, on page 15, that the chord  $PQ$  becomes more and more nearly equal to the arc  $PQ$  as  $Q$  approaches  $P$ ; when  $Q$

<sup>1</sup> Note the equivocal use of the word "tangent" in geometry and in trigonometry. In geometry, a "tangent is a line between which and the curve no other straight line can be drawn," or "a line which just touches but does not cut the curve". The slope of a curve at any point can be represented by a tangent to the curve at that point, and this tangent makes an angle of  $\tan \alpha$  with the  $x$ -axis.

coincides with  $P$ , the angle  $MTP = \text{angle } RPQ = \alpha$ ;  $dx$ ,  $dy$  and  $ds$  are the sides of an infinitesimally small triangle with an angle at  $P$  equal to  $\alpha$ ; consequently

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \tan \alpha. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

This is a most important result. The differential coefficient represents the slope of gradient of the curve. In other words, the tangent of the angle made by the slope of any part of a curve with the  $x$ -axis is the first differential coefficient of the ordinate of the curve with respect to the abscissa.

We can also see very readily that in the infinitely small triangle,

$$dx = ds \cdot \cos \alpha; dy = ds \cdot \sin \alpha; \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

and, since  $R$  is a right angle,

$$(ds)^2 = (dy)^2 + (dx)^2. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

If we plot the distances,  $x$ , traversed by a particle at different intervals of time (abscissæ); or the amounts of substance,  $x$ , transformed in a chemical reaction at different intervals of time,  $t$ , we get a curve whose slope at any point represents the velocity of the process at the corresponding interval of time. This we call a **velocity curve**. If the curve slopes downwards from left to right,  $dx/dt$  will be negative and the velocity of the process will be diminishing; if the curve slopes upwards from left to right,  $dx/dt$  will be positive, and the velocity will be increasing.

If we plot the velocity,  $V$ , of any process at different intervals of time,  $t$ , we get a curve whose slope indicates the rate at which the velocity is changing. This we call an **acceleration curve**. The area bounded by an acceleration curve and the coordinate axes represents the distance traversed or the amount of substance transformed in a chemical reaction as the case might be.

EXAMPLES.—(1) At what point in the curve  $y_1^2 = 4x_1$  does the tangent make an angle of  $60^\circ$  with the  $x$ -axis? Here  $dy_1/dx_1 = 2/y_1 = \tan 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}$ .  
Ansr.  $y_1 = 2\sqrt{3}$ ;  $x_1 = 1$ .

(2) Find the tangent of the angle,  $\alpha$ , made by any point  $P(x, y)$  on the parabolic curve. In other words, it is required to find a straight line which has the same slope as the curve has which passes through the point  $P(x, y)$ . Since  $y^2 = 4ax$ ;  $dy/dx = 2a/y = \tan \alpha$ . If the tangent of the angle were to have any particular value, this value would have to be substituted in place of  $dy/dx$ . For instance, let the tangent at the point  $P(x, y)$  make an angle of  $45^\circ$ . Since  $\tan 45 = \text{unity}$ ,  $2a/y = \tan \alpha = 1$ ,  $\therefore y = 2a$ . Substituting in the original equation  $y^2 = 4ax$ , we get  $x = a$ , that is to say, the required tangent

passes through the extremity of the ordinate perpendicular on the focus. If the tangent had to be parallel to the  $x$ -axis,  $\tan \theta$  being zero,  $dy/dx$  is equated to zero; while if the tangent had to be perpendicular to the  $x$ -axis, since  $\tan 90^\circ = \infty$ ,  $dy/dx = \infty$ .

(3) Required the direction of motion at any moment of a point moving according to the equation,  $y = a \cos 2\pi(x + \epsilon)$ . The tangent, at any time  $t$ , has the slope,  $-2\pi a \sin 2\pi(x + \epsilon)$ .

(4) E. Mallard and H. le Chatelier represent the relation between the molecular specific heat,  $s$ , of carbon dioxide and temperature,  $\theta$ , by the expression  $s = 6.3 + 0.00564\theta - 0.000001,08\theta^2$ . Plot the  $(\theta, ds/d\theta)$ -curve from  $\theta = 0^\circ$  to  $\theta = 2,000$  (abscissæ). Possibly a few trials will have to be made before the "scale" of each coordinate will be properly proportioned to give the most satisfactory graph. The student must learn to do this sort of thing for himself. What is the difference in meaning between this curve and the  $(s, \theta)$ -curve?

(5) Show that  $dx/dy$  is the cotangent of the angle whose tangent is  $dy/dx$ .

Let  $TP$  (Fig. 25) be a tangent to the curve at the point  $P(x_1, y_1)$ . Let  $OM = x_1$ ,  $MP = y_1$ . Let  $y = mx + b$ , be the equation of the tangent line  $TPT'$ , and  $y_1 = f(x_1)$  the equation of the curve,  $ROP$ . From (14), page 94, we know that a straight line can only pass through the point  $P(x_1, y_1)$ , when

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

where  $m$  is the tangent of the angle which the line  $y = mx$  makes with the  $x$ -axis; and  $x$  and  $y$  are the coordinates of any point taken at random on the tangent line. But we have just seen that this angle is equal to the first differential coefficient of the ordinate of the curve; hence by substitution

$$y - y_1 = \frac{dy_1}{dx_1}(x - x_1), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

which is the required equation of the tangent to a curve at a point whose coordinates are  $x_1, y_1$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the equation of the tangent at the point (4, 2) in the curve  $y_1^2 = 4x_1$ . Here,  $dy_1/dx_1 = 1$ ;  $x_1 = 4$ ,  $y_1 = 2$ . Hence, from (4),  $y = x - 2$  is the required equation.

(2) Required the equation of the tangent to a parabola. Since

$$y_1^2 = 4ax_1, \quad dy_1/dx_1 = 2a/y_1.$$

Substituting in (5) and rearranging terms,

$$(y - y_1)y_1 = yy_1 - y_1^2 = 2a(x - x_1).$$

Substituting for  $y_1^2$ , we get

$$yy_1 = 2a(x + x_1), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

as the equation for the tangent line of a parabola. If  $x = 0$ ,  $\tan \alpha = \infty$ , and the tangent is perpendicular to the  $x$ -axis and touches the  $y$ -axis. To get the

point of intersection of the tangent with the  $x$ -axis put  $y = 0$ , then  $x = -x_1$ . The vertex of the parabola therefore bisects the  $x$ -axis between the point of intersection of the tangent and of the ordinate of the point of tangency.

(3) Find the equation of the tangent to the ellipse,

$$\frac{x_1^2}{a^2} + \frac{y_1^2}{b^2} = 1. \quad \therefore \frac{dy_1}{dx_1} = -\frac{b^2}{a^2} \frac{x_1}{y_1};$$

substituting this value of  $dy_1/dx_1$  in (5), multiply the result by  $y_1$ ; divide through by  $b^2$ ; rearrange terms and combine the result with the equation of the ellipse, (1), page 100. The result is the tangent to any point on the ellipse,

$$\frac{xx_1}{a^2} + \frac{yy_1}{b^2} = 1, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

where  $x_1, y_1$  are coordinates of any point on the curve and  $x, y$  the coordinates of the tangent.

(4) Find the equation of the tangent at any point  $P(x_1, y_1)$  on the hyperbolic curve. Differentiate the equation of the hyperbola

$$\frac{x_1^2}{a^2} - \frac{y_1^2}{b^2} = 1. \quad \therefore \frac{dy_1}{dx_1} = \frac{b^2}{a^2} \frac{x_1}{y_1}; \quad \therefore y - y_1 = \frac{b^2}{a^2} \frac{x_1}{y_1}(x - x_1).$$

Multiply this equation by  $y_1$ ; divide by  $b^2$ ; rearrange the terms and combine the result with the second of the above equations. We thus find that the tangent to any point on the hyperbola has the equation

$$\frac{xx_1}{a^2} - \frac{yy_1}{b^2} = 1. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

At the point of intersection of the tangent to the hyperbola with the  $x$ -axis,  $y = 0$  and the corresponding value of  $x$  is

$$xx_1 = a^2; \text{ or, } x = a^2/x_1, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

the same as for the ellipse.

From (9) if  $x_1$  is infinitely great,  $x = 0$ , and the tangent then passes through the origin. The limiting position of the tangent to the point on the hyperbola at an infinite distance away is interesting. Such a tangent is called an **asymptote**. To find the angle which the asymptote makes with the  $x$ -axis we must determine the limiting value of

$$\frac{y_1^2}{b^2} = \frac{x_1^2}{a^2} - 1,$$

when  $x_1$  is made infinitely great. Multiply both sides by  $b^2/x_1^2$ , and

$$\therefore \frac{y_1^2}{x_1^2} = \frac{b^2}{a^2} - \frac{b^2}{x_1^2}.$$

If  $x_1$  be made infinitely great the desired ratio is

$$\text{Lt}_{x_1=\infty} \frac{y_1^2}{x_1^2} = \frac{b^2}{a^2}, \quad \therefore \text{Lt}_{x_1=\infty} \frac{y_1}{x_1} = \frac{b}{a}.$$

Differentiate the equation of the hyperbola, and introduce this value for  $x_1/y_1$ , and we get

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \tan \alpha \text{ (say)} = \frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{b^2}{a^2} = \frac{b}{a} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

If we now construct the rectangle  $RSS'R'$  (Fig. 23, page 101) with sides parallel to the axes and cut off  $OA = OA' = a$ ,  $OB = OB' = b$ , the diagonal in the first quadrant and the asymptote, having the same relation to the two axes, are identical. Since the  $x$ - and  $y$ -axes are symmetrical, it follows that these conditions hold for every quadrant. Hence,  $R'OS$ , and  $R'OS'$  are the asymptotes of the hyperbola.

### § 39. A Study of Curves.

A normal line is a perpendicular to the tangent at a given

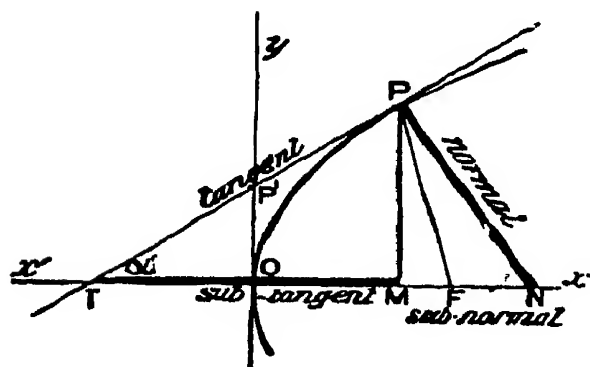


FIG. 25.

point on the curve, drawn to the  $x$ -axis. Let  $NP$  be normal to the curve (Fig. 25) at the point  $P(x_1, y_1)$ . Let  $y = mx + b$ , be the equation of the normal line;  $y_1 = f(x_1)$ , the equation of the curve. The condition that any line may be perpendicular to the tangent line  $TP$ , is that  $m' = -1/m$ , (17), page 96. From (5)

$$y - y_1 = -\frac{1}{m}(x - x_1),$$

or, the equation of the normal line is

$$y - y_1 = -\frac{dx_1}{dy_1}(x - x_1); \text{ or, } -\frac{dx_1}{dy_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{x - x_1}. \quad (1)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the equation of the normal at the point (4, 3) in the curve  $x_1^2 y_1^3 = a$ . Here  $dx_1/dy_1 = -3x_1/2y_1$ . Hence, by substitution in (1),  $y = 2x - 5$ .

(2) Show that  $y = 2(x - 6)$  is the equation of the normal to the curve  $4y_1 + x_1^2 = 0$ , at the point (4, -4).

(3) The tangent to the ellipse cuts the  $x$ -axis at a point where  $y = 0$ ; from (7), page 105,

$$\therefore xx_1 = a^2; \text{ or, } x = a^2/x_1. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

In Fig. 26 let  $PT$  be a tangent to the ellipse,  $NP$  the normal. From (2),

$$F_1T = x + c = a^2/x_1 + c; \quad FT = x - c = a^2/x_1 - c,$$

since  $F_1O = OF = c$ ;  $OT = x$ ;  $OM = x_1$ ,

$$\therefore \frac{F_1T}{FT} = \frac{a^2 + cx_1}{a^2 - cx_1} \quad (3)$$

Since  $FP = r$ ,  $F_1P = r_1$ ;  $OF = F_1O = c$ ;  $OM = x_1$ ;  $MP = y_1$ ,

$$r^2 = y_1^2 + (c - x_1)^2; \quad r_1^2 = y_1^2 + (c + x_1)^2.$$

$$\therefore r^2 - r_1^2 = (r + r_1)(r - r_1) = -4cx_1;$$

But by the definition of an ellipse, pages 100 and 101,

$$r + r_1 = 2a; \quad \therefore r - r_1 = -2cx_1/a; \quad \therefore r = a - cx_1/a; \quad r_1 = a + cx_1/a.$$

$$\frac{F_1P}{FP} = \frac{r_1}{r} = \frac{a^2 + cx_1}{a^2 - cx_1} \quad (4)$$

From (3) and (4), therefore,

$$F_1T : FT = F_1P : FP.$$

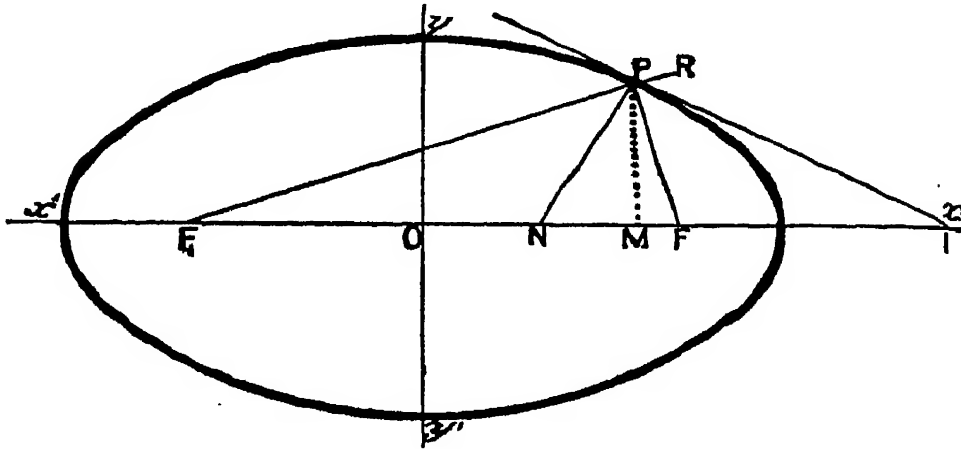


FIG. 26.—The Foci of the Ellipse.

By Euclid, vi., A: "If, in any triangle, the segments of the base produced have to one another the same ratio as the remaining sides of the triangle, the straight line drawn from the vertex to the point of section bisects the external angle". Hence in the triangle  $FPF_1$ , the tangent bisects the external angle  $FPR$ , and the normal bisects the angle  $FPF_1$ .

The preceding example shows that *the normal at any point on the ellipse bisects the angle enclosed by the focal radii; and the tangent at any point on the ellipse bisects the exterior angle formed by the focal radii*. This property accounts for the fact that if  $F_1P$  be a ray of light emitted by some source  $F_1$ , the tangent at  $P$  represents the reflecting surface at that point, and the normal to the tangent is therefore normal to the surface of incidence. From a well-known optical law, "the angles of incidence and reflection are equal," and since  $F_1PN$  is equal to  $NPF$  when  $PF$  is the reflected ray, all rays emitted from one focus of the ellipse are reflected and concentrated at the other focus. This phenomenon occurs with light, heat, sound and electro-magnetic waves.



To find the length of the tangent and of the normal. The length of the tangent can be readily found by substituting the values  $MP$  and  $TM$  in the equation for the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle  $TPM$  (Euclid, i., 47); and in the same way the length of the normal is obtained from the known values of  $MN$  and  $PM$  already deduced.

The **subnormal** of any curve is that part of the  $x$ -axis lying between the point of intersection of the normal and the ordinate drawn from the same point on the curve. Let  $MN$  be the subnormal of the curve shown in Fig. 25, then

$$MN = x - x_1,$$

and the length of  $MN$  is, from (1),

$$x - x_1 = y_1 \frac{dy_1}{dx_1}; \text{ or, } \frac{dy_1}{dx_1} = \frac{x - x_1}{y_1} \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

when the normal is drawn from the point  $P(x_1, y_1)$ .

The **subtangent** of any curve is that part of the  $x$ -axis lying between the points of intersection of the tangent and the ordinate drawn from the given point. Let  $TM$  (Fig. 25) be the subtangent, then

$$x_1 - x = TM.$$

Putting  $y = 0$  in equation (1), the corresponding value for the length,  $TM$ , of the subtangent is

$$x_1 - x = y_1 \frac{dx_1}{dy_1}; \text{ or, } \frac{dx_1}{dy_1} = \frac{x_1 - x}{y_1} \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the length of the subtangent and subnormal lines in the parabola,  $y_1^2 = 4ax_1$ . Since  $y_1 dy_1/dx_1 = 2a$ , the subtangent is  $2x_1$ ; the subnormal,  $2a$ . Hence the vertex of the parabola bisects the subtangent.

(2) Show that the subtangent of the curve  $pv = \text{constant}$ , is equal to  $-v$ .

(3) Let  $P(x, y)$  be a point on the parabolic curve (Fig. 27) referred to the coordinate axes  $Ox, Oy$ ;  $PT$  a tangent at the point  $P$ , and let  $KA$  be the directrix. Let  $F$  be the focus of the parabola  $y^2 = 4ax$ . Join  $PF$ . Draw  $KP$  parallel to  $Ox$ . Join  $KT$ . Then  $KPFT$  is a rhombus (Euclid, i., 34), for it has been shown that the vertex of the parabola  $O$  bisects the subtangent, Ex. (1) above. Hence,  $TO = OM$ ; and, by definition,  $AO = OF$ ;

$$\therefore TA = FM; \text{ and } KP = TF;$$

consequently, the sides  $KT$  and  $PF$  are parallel, and by definition of the parabola,  $KP = PF$ ,  $\therefore$  the two triangles  $KPT$  and  $PTF$  are equal in all respects, and (Euclid, i., 5) the angle  $KPT = \text{angle } TPF$ , that is to say, the tangent to the parabola at any given point bisects the angle made by the focal radius and the perpendicular dropped on to the directrix from the given point.

In Fig. 27, the angle  $TPF = \text{angle } TPK = \text{opposite angle } RPT'$  (Euclid,

i., 15). But, by construction, the angles  $TPN$  and  $NPT'$  are right angles; take away the equal angles  $TPF$  and  $RPT'$  and the angle  $FPN$  is equal to the angle  $NPR$ .

The normal at any point on the parabola bisects the angle enclosed by the focal radius and a line drawn through the given point, parallel to the  $x$ -axis. This property is of great importance in physics. All light rays falling parallel to the principal (or  $x$ -) axis on to a parabolic mirror are reflected at the focus  $F$ , and conversely all light rays proceeding from the focus

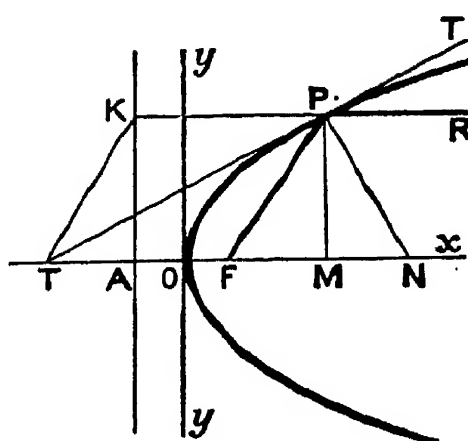


FIG. 27.—The Focus of the Parabola.

are reflected parallel to the  $x$ -axis. Hence the employment of parabolic mirrors for illumination and other purposes. In some of Marconi's recent experiments on wireless telegraphy, electrical radiations were directed by means of parabolic reflectors. Hertz, in his classical researches on the identity of light and electromagnetic waves, employed large parabolic mirrors, in the focus of which a "generator," or "receiver" of the electrical oscillations was placed. See D. E. Jones' translation of H. Hertz's *Electric Waves*, London, 172, 1893.

#### § 40. The Rectangular or Equilateral Hyperbola.

If we put  $a = b$  in the standard equation to the hyperbola, the result is an hyperbola (Fig. 28) for which

$$x^2 - y^2 = a^2, \quad (1)$$

and since  $\tan a = 1 = \tan 45^\circ$ , each asymptote makes an angle of  $45^\circ$  with the  $x$ - or  $y$ -axes. In other words, the asymptotes bisect the coordinate axes. This special form of the hyperbola is called an *equilateral* or *rectangular hyperbola*. It follows directly that the asymptotes are at right angles to each other.

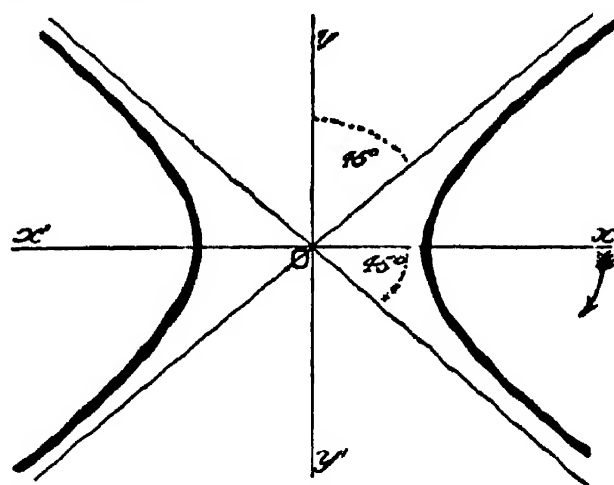


FIG. 28.—The Rectangular Hyperbola.

The asymptotes may, therefore, serve as a pair of rectangular



bulb, the mercury in the exposed stem is cooled, and a small correction must be made for the consequent contraction of the mercury exposed in the stem. If  $x$  denotes the difference between the temperature registered by the thermometer and the tempera-

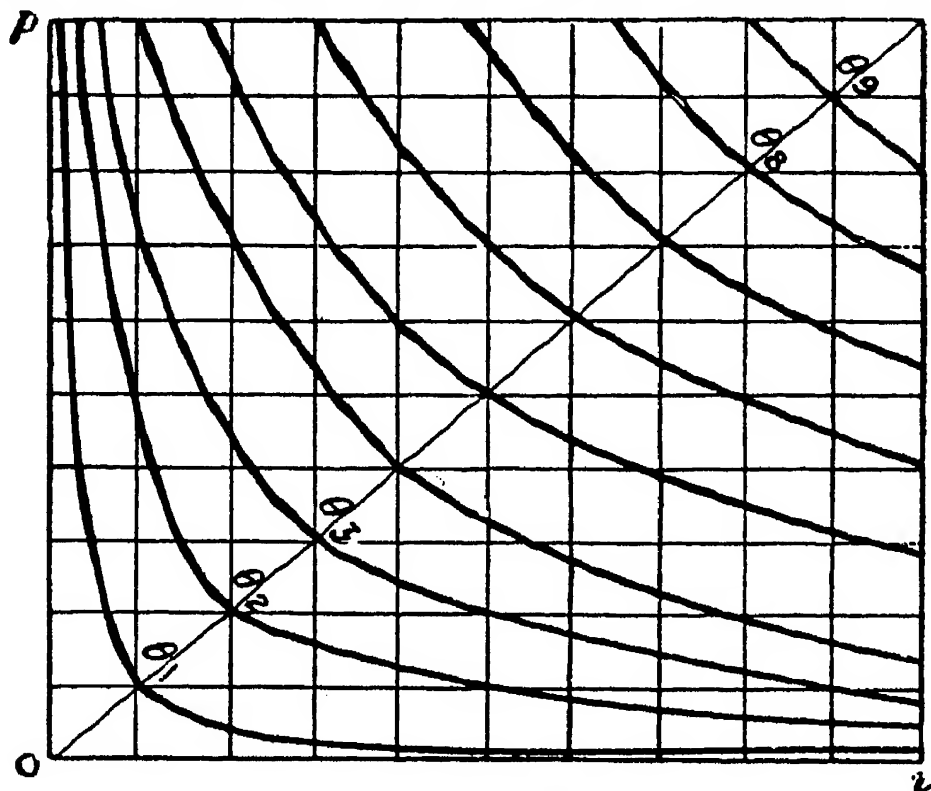


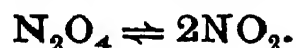
FIG. 29.—Isothermal  $pv$ -curves.

ture of the exposed stem,  $y$  the number of thermometer divisions exposed to the cooler atmosphere, then the correction can be obtained by the so-called *exposure formula of a thermometer*, namely,

$$\theta = 0.00016xy,$$

which has the same form as equation (2), page 110. By assuming a series of suitable values for  $\theta$  (say 0.1...) and plotting the results for pairs of values of  $x$  and  $y$ , curves are obtained for use in the laboratory. These curves allow the required correction to be seen at a glance.

*III. Dissociation curves.* Gaseous molecules under certain conditions dissociate into similar parts. Nitrogen peroxide, for instance, dissociates into simpler molecules, thus:



Iodine at a high temperature does the same thing,  $\text{I}_2$  becoming  $2\text{I}$ . In solution a similar series of phenomena occur,  $\text{KCl}$  becoming  $\text{K} + \text{Cl}$ , and so on. Let  $x$  denote the number of molecules of an

acid or salt which dissociate into two parts called *ions*;  $(1 - x)$  the number of molecules of the acid, or salt resisting ionization;  $c$  the quantity of substance contained in unit volume, that is the

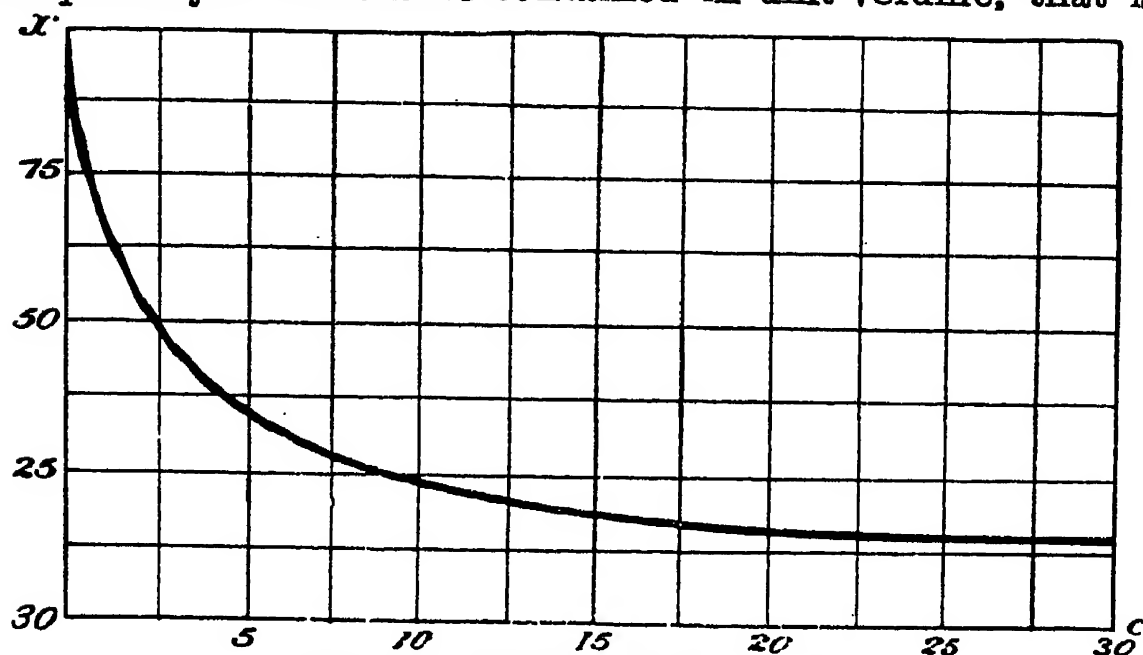


FIG. 30.—Dissociation Isotherm.

concentration of the solution. Nernst has shown that at constant temperature

$$K = \frac{cx^2}{1-x}$$

where  $K$  is the so-called dissociation constant whose meaning is obtained by putting  $x = 0.5$ . In this case  $K = \frac{1}{2}c$ , that is to say,  $K$  is equal to half the quantity of acid or salt in solution when half of the acid or salt is dissociated.

Putting  $K = 1$  we can obtain a series of corresponding values of  $c$  and  $x$ . For example, if

$$\begin{array}{l} x = .16, \quad 0.25, \quad 0.5, \quad 0.75, \quad 0.94 \dots; \\ \text{then } c = 32, \quad 12, \quad 2, \quad 0.44, \quad 0.07 \dots \end{array}$$

It thus appears that when the concentration is very great, the amount of dissociation is very small, and *vice versa*, when the concentration is small the amount of dissociation is very great. Complete dissociation can perhaps never be obtained. The graphic curve (Fig. 30), called, by Nernst, the **dissociation isotherm**, is asymptotic towards the two axes, but when drawn on a small scale the curve appears to cut the ordinate axis.

IV. The *volume elasticity* of a substance is defined as the ratio of any small increase of pressure to the diminution of volume per unit volume of substance. If the temperature is kept constant

during the change, we have **isothermal elasticity**, while if the change takes place without gain or loss of heat, **adiabatic elasticity**. If unit volume of gas,  $v$ , changes by an amount  $dv$  for an increase of pressure  $dp$ , the elasticity,  $E$ , is

$$E = - \frac{dp}{\frac{dv}{v}} = - v \frac{dp}{dv} \quad (1)$$

A similar equation can be obtained by differentiating Boyle's law,  $pv = \text{constant}$ , for an isothermal change of state. The result is that

$$p = - v \frac{dp}{dv} . \quad (2)$$

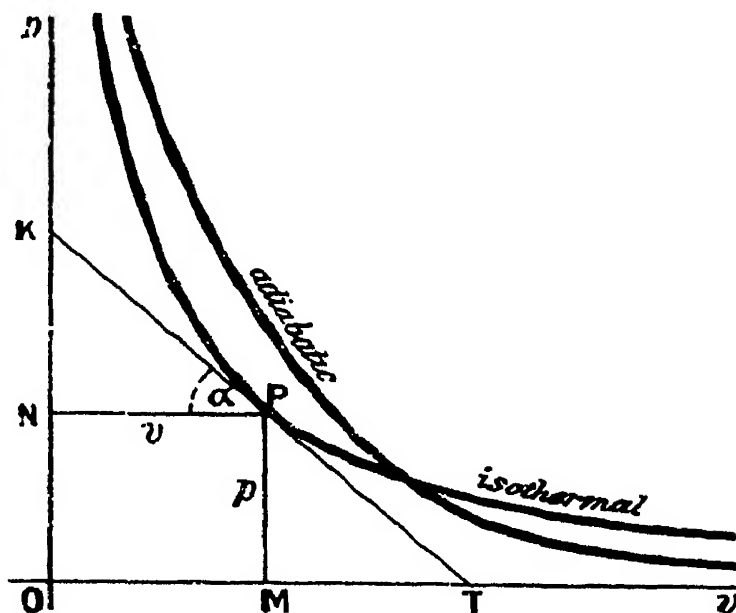


FIG. 31.— $pv$ -curves.

an equation identical with that deduced for the definition of volume elasticity. The equation  $pv = \text{constant}$  is that of a rectangular hyperbola referred to its asymptotes as axes.

Let  $P(p, v)$  (Fig. 31) be a point on the curve  $pv = \text{constant}$ . In constructing the diagram the triangles  $KNP$  and  $PMT$  were made equal and similar (Euclid, i., 26). See Ex. (2) page 108, and note that  $KN$  is the vertical subtangent equivalent to  $-p$ .

$$KN = - NP \tan \alpha = - v \tan KPN = - v \frac{dp}{dv},$$

that is to say, *the isothermal elasticity of a gas in any assigned condition, is numerically equal to the vertical subtangent of the curve corresponding to the substance in the given state.*

But since in the rectangular hyperbola  $KN = PM$ , *the isothermal elasticity of a gas is equal to the pressure* (2). The adiabatic elasticity of a gas may be obtained by a similar method to that used for equation (1). If the gas be subject to an adiabatic change of pressure and volume it is known that

$$pv^\gamma = \text{constant} = C. \quad (3)$$

Taking logarithms, (3) furnishes  $\log p + \gamma \log v = \log C$ . By differentiation and rearrangement of terms, we get

$$E_a = - v \frac{dp}{dv} = \gamma p, \quad (4)$$

in other words the adiabatic elasticity<sup>1</sup> of a gas is  $\gamma$  times the pressure. A similar construction for the adiabatic curve furnishes

$$KN : PM = KP : PT = \gamma : 1,$$

that is to say, the tangent to an adiabatic curve is divided at the point of contact in the ratio  $\gamma : 1$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Assuming the Newton-Laplace formula that the square of the velocity of propagation,  $V$ , of a compression wave (e.g., of sound) in a gas varies directly as the adiabatic elasticity of the gas,  $E_\phi$ , and inversely as the density,  $\rho$ , or  $V^2 \propto E_\phi/\rho$ ; show that  $V^2 \propto \gamma RT$ . Hints: Since the compression wave travels so rapidly, the changes of pressure and volume may be supposed to take place without gain or loss of heat. Therefore, instead of using Boyle's law,  $pv = \text{constant}$ , we must employ  $pv^\gamma = \text{constant}$ . Hence deduce  $\gamma p = v \cdot dp/dv = E_\phi$ . Note that the volume varies inversely as the density of the gas. Hence, if

$$V^2 \propto E_\phi/\rho \propto E_\phi v \propto \gamma p v \propto \gamma RT. \quad (5)$$

(2) R. Mayer's equation, page 82 and (5) can be employed to determine the two specific heats of any gas in which the velocity of sound is known. Let  $a$  be a constant to be evaluated from the known values of  $R$ ,  $T$ ,  $V^2$ ,

$$\therefore C_v = R/(1 - a), \text{ and } C_p = aC_v. \quad (6)$$

Boynton has employed van der Waals' equation in place of Boyle's. Perhaps the reader can do this for himself. It will simplify matters to neglect terms containing magnitudes of a high order (see W. P. Boynton, *Physical Review*, 12, 353, 1901).

## § 42. Polar Coordinates.

Instead of representing the position of a point in a plane in terms of its horizontal and vertical distances along two standard lines of reference, it is sometimes more convenient to define the position of the point by a length and a direction. For example, in Fig. 32 let the point  $O$  be fixed, and  $Ox$  a straight line through  $O$ .

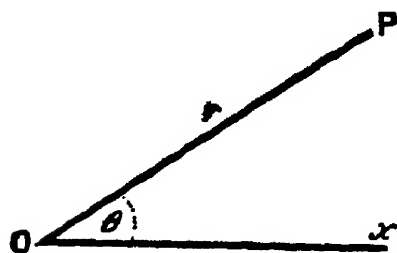


FIG. 32.—Polar Coordinates.

Then, the position of any other point  $P$  will be completely defined if (1) the length  $OP$  and (2) the angle  $OP$  makes with  $Ox$ , are known. These are called the polar coordinates of  $P$ , the first is called the **radius vector**, the latter the **vectorial angle**. The radius vector is generally represented by the symbol  $r$ , the vectorial angle by  $\theta$ , and  $P$  is called the point  $P(r, \theta)$ ,  $O$  is called the *pole* and  $Ox$  the *initial line*. As in trigonometry, the vectorial angle is measured by supposing

<sup>1</sup> From other considerations,  $E_\phi$  is usually written  $E_\phi$ .

the angle  $\theta$  has been swept out by a revolving line moving from a position coincident with  $Ox$  to  $OP$ . It is positive if the direction of revolution is contrawise to the motion of the hands of a clock.

To change from polar to rectangular coordinates and *vice versa*. In Fig. 33, let  $(r, \theta)$  be the polar coordinates of the point  $P(x, y)$ . Let the angle  $x'OP = \theta$ .

I. To pass from Cartesian to polar coordinates.

$$\sin \theta = \frac{MP}{OP} = \frac{y}{r}; \cos \theta = \frac{OM}{OP} = \frac{x}{r};$$

$$\therefore y = r \sin \theta \text{ and } x = r \cos \theta, \quad (1)$$

which expresses  $x$ , and  $y$ , in terms of  $r$  and  $\theta$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Transform the equation  $x^2 - y^2 = 3$  from rectangular to polar coordinates, pole at origin. Ansr.  $r^2 \cos 2\theta = 3$ . Hint.  $\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta = \cos 2\theta$ .

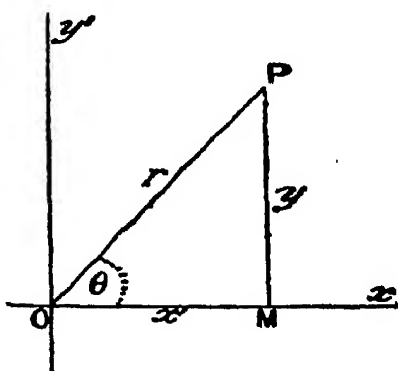


FIG. 33.

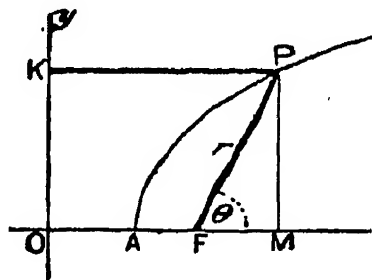


FIG. 34.

(2) Show that  $x^2 + y^2 = 9$  represents the same line as  $r = 3$ . Hint.  $r^2(\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta) = 9$ ; and  $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$ .

(3) A point  $P$  moves along a curve in such a way that the ratio of its distance from a given point  $F$ , and from a given straight line  $OK$  (Fig. 34) is a constant quantity, say  $e$ . Find the path of the point. Hint. In Fig. 34  $FP = eKP$ . Let  $KP = OM = x$ ;  $MP = y$ . Required the equation connecting  $x$  and  $y$ .  $(FP)^2 = (MP)^2 + (FM)^2 = y^2 + (x - a)^2$ , where  $OF$  is put  $= a$ . If  $e$  is unity, the curve is a parabola; if  $e < 1$  the curve is an ellipse; if  $e > 1$  the curve is an hyperbola.  $e$  is called the eccentricity of the curve. In polar coordinates  $KP = OF + FM = a + r \cos \theta$ ,

$$\therefore e = \frac{r}{a + r \cos \theta}; \text{ or } r = \frac{ae}{1 - e \cos \theta}, \quad (2)$$

whether curve be an hyperbola, ellipse or parabola.

II. To pass from polar to Cartesian coordinates. In the same figure



$$\tan \theta = \frac{MP}{OM} = \frac{y}{x};$$

$$r^2 = (OP)^2 = (OM)^2 + (MP)^2 = x^2 + y^2;$$

$$\therefore \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}; \quad r = \pm \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

which expresses  $\theta$ , and  $r$ , in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ . The sign of  $r$  is ambiguous, but, by taking any particular solution for  $\theta$ , the preceding remarks will show which sign is to be taken.

Just as in Cartesian coordinates, the graph of a polar equation may be obtained by assigning convenient values to  $\theta$  (say  $0^\circ$ ,  $30^\circ$ ,  $45^\circ$ ,  $60^\circ$ ,  $90^\circ \dots$ ) and calculating the corresponding value of  $r$  from the equation.

EXAMPLES.—(1) What are the rectangular coordinates of the points  $(2, 60^\circ)$ , and  $(2, 45^\circ)$  respectively? Ansr.  $(1, \sqrt{3})$ , and  $(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2})$ .

(2) Express the equation  $r = m \cos \theta$  in rectangular coordinates. Ansr.  $x^2 + y^2 = mx$ . Hint.  $\cos \theta = x/r$ ;  $\therefore r^2 = mx$ , etc.

Polar coordinates are particularly useful in astronomical and geodetical investigations. In meteorological charts the relation between the direction of the wind, and the height of the barometer, or the temperature, is often plotted in polar coordinates. The treatment of problems involving direction in space, displacement, velocity, acceleration, momentum, rotation, and electric current are often simplified by the use of vectors. But see O. Henrici and G. C. Turner's *Vectors and Rotors*, London, 1903, for a simple exposition of this subject.

### § 43. Spiral Curves.

The equations of the spiral curves are considerably simplified by the use of polar coordinates. For instance, the curve for the logarithmic spiral (Fig. 35), though somewhat complex in Cartesian coordinates, is represented in polar coordinates by the simple equation

$$r = a^\theta, \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where  $a$  has a constant value. Hence

$$\log r = \theta \log a.$$

Let  $C, C_1, C_2, \dots$  (Fig. 35) be a series of points on the spiral corresponding with the angles  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots$ ; and the radii vectores  $r_1, r_2, \dots$ . Hence,

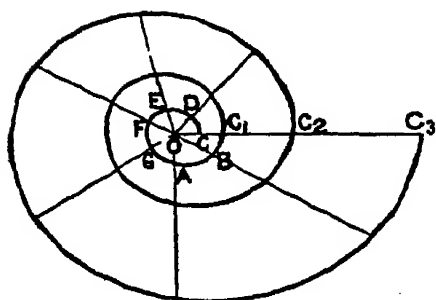


FIG. 35.—Logarithmic Spiral.

$$\log r_1 = \theta_1 \log a; \log r_2 = \theta_2 \log a \dots$$

Since  $\log a$  is constant, say equal to  $k$ ,

$$\log \frac{r_1}{r_2} = (\theta_1 - \theta_2)k,$$

that is, the logarithm of the ratio of the distance of any two points on the curve from the pole is proportional to the angle between their radii vectores. If  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  lie on the same straight line, then

$$\theta_1 - \theta_2 = 2\pi = 360^\circ; \text{ and } \log \frac{r_1}{r_2} = 2k\pi,$$

$\pi$  being the symbol used, as in trigonometry, to denote  $180^\circ$ .

Similarly, it can be shown that if  $r_3, r_4 \dots$  lie on the same straight line, the logarithm of the ratio of  $r_1$  to  $r_3, r_4 \dots$  is given by  $4k\pi, 6k\pi \dots$ . This is true for any straight line passing through  $O$ ; and therefore the spiral is made up of an infinite number of turns which extend inwards and outwards without limit.

If the radii vectores  $OC, OD, OE \dots OC_1, OD_1 \dots$  be taken to represent the number of vibrations of a sounding body in a given time, the angles  $COD, DOE \dots$  measure the logarithms of the intervals between the tones produced by these vibrations. A point travelling along the curve will then represent a tone continuously rising in pitch, and the curve, passing successively through the same line produced, represents the passage of the tone through successive octaves. The geometrical periodicity of the curve is a graphical representation of the periodicity perceived by the ear when a tone continuously rises in pitch.

This diagram may also be used to illustrate the Newlands-Mendeléeff law of octaves, by arranging the elements along the curve in the order of their atomic weights. E. Loew (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 23, 1, 1897) represents the atomic weight,  $W$ , as a function of the radius vector,  $r$ , and the vectorial angle,  $\theta$ :  $W = f(r, \theta)$ , so that  $r = \theta = \sqrt{W}$ . He thus obtains  $W = r\theta$ . This curve is the well-known Archimedes' spiral. If  $r$  is any radius vector, the distances of the points  $P_1, P_2, P_3, \dots$  from  $O$  are

$$\begin{aligned} r_2 &= r + \pi; r_4 = r + 3\pi; r_6 = r + 5\pi; \dots \\ r_3 &= r + 2\pi; r_5 = r + 4\pi; r_7 = r + 6\pi; \dots \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Plot Archimedes' spiral,  $r = a\theta$ ; and show that the revolutions of the spiral are at a distance of  $2a\pi$  from one another.

(2) Plot the hyperbolic spiral,  $r\theta = a$ ; and show that the ratio of the distance of any two points from the pole is inversely proportional to the angles between their radii vectores.

### § 44. Trilinear Coordinates and Triangular Diagrams.

Another method of representing the position of a point in a plane is to refer it to its perpendicular distance from the sides of a

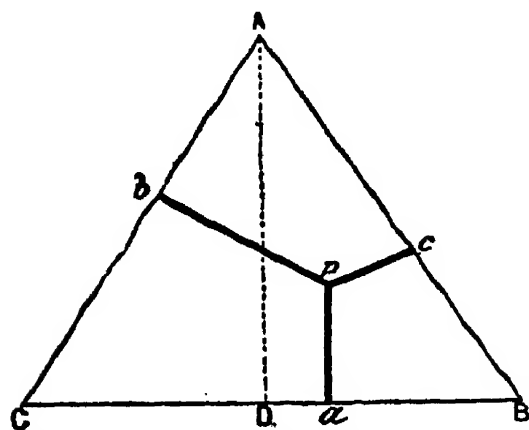


FIG. 36.—Trilinear Coordinates.  $pa, pb, pc$ , then

$$pa + pb + pc = 100.$$

This property<sup>1</sup> has been extensively used in the graphic representation of the composition of certain ternary alloys, and mixtures of salts. Each vertex is supposed to represent one constituent of

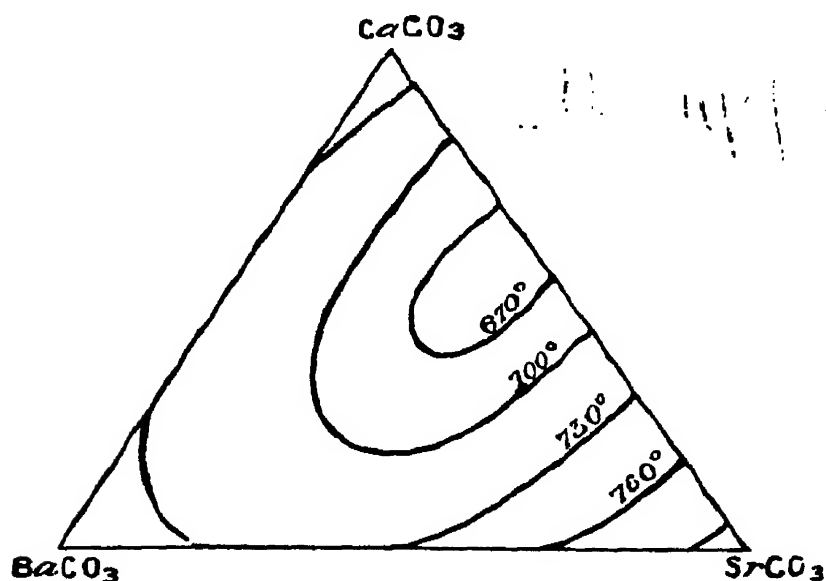


FIG. 37.—Surface of Fusibility.

of barium, strontium and calcium. Such a diagram is sometimes called a **surface of fusibility**. A mixture melting at  $670^\circ$  may

the mixture. Any point within the triangle corresponds to that mixture whose percentage composition is represented by the trilinear coordinates of that point. Any point on a side of the triangle represents a binary mixture. Fig. 37 shows the melting points of ternary mixtures of isomorphous carbonates

<sup>1</sup> It is not difficult to see this. Through  $p$  draw  $pG$  parallel to  $AC$  cutting  $AB$  at  $G$ ; through  $G$  draw  $GK$  parallel to  $BC$  cutting  $AD$  at  $F$ , and  $AC$  at  $K$ ; produce the line  $ap$  until it meets  $GK$  at  $E$ ; draw  $GH$  perpendicular to  $AC$ . Now show that  $AF = HG = pb$ ; that  $pE = pc$ ; that  $DF = pc + pa$ ; and that  $DA = pa + pb + pc$ .

have the composition represented by any point on the isothermal curve marked  $670^{\circ}$ , and so on for the other isothermal curves.

In a similar way the composition of quaternary mixtures has been graphically represented by the perpendicular distance of a point from the four sides of a square.

Roozeboom, Bancroft and others have used triangular diagrams with lines ruled parallel to each other as shown in Fig. 38. Sup-

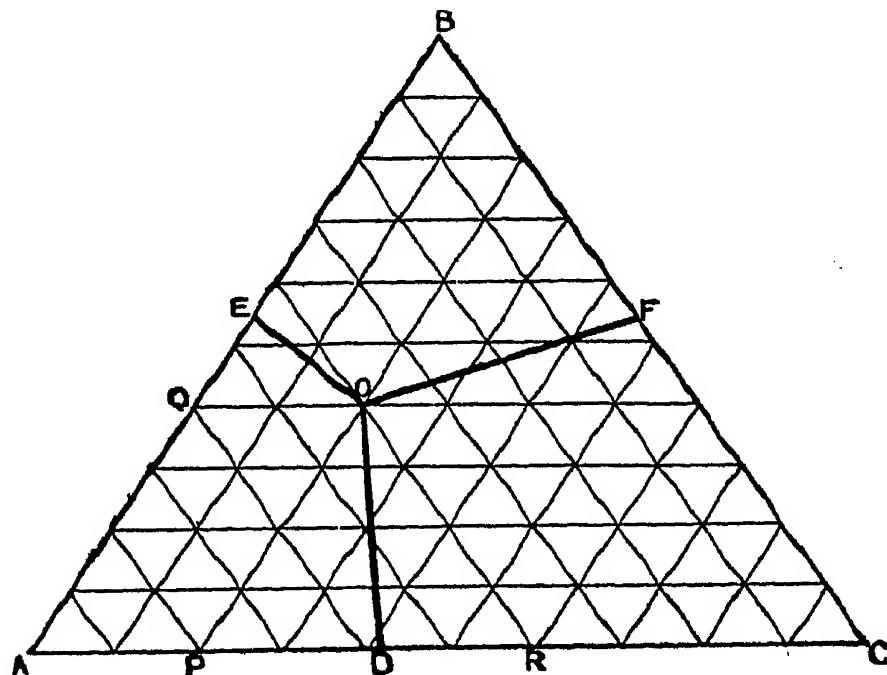


FIG. 38.—Concentration-Temperature diagram.

pose we have a mixture of three salts,  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , such that the three vertices of the triangle  $ABC$  represent phases<sup>1</sup> containing 100 % of each component. The composition of any binary mixture is given by a point on the boundary lines of the triangle, while the composition of any ternary mixture is represented by some point inside the triangle.

The position of any point inside the triangle is read directly from the coordinates *parallel* to the sides of the triangle. For instance, the composition of a mixture represented by the point  $O$  is obtained by drawing lines from  $O$  *parallel* to the three sides of the triangle  $OP$ ,  $OR$ ,  $OQ$ . Then start from one corner as origin and measure along the two sides,  $AP$  fixes the amount of  $C$ ,  $AQ$

<sup>1</sup> A *phase* is a mass of uniform concentration. The number of phases in a system is the number of masses of different concentration present. For example, at the temperature of melting ice three phases may be present in the  $H_2O$ -system, *viz.*, solid ice, liquid water and steam; if a salt is dissolved in water there is a solution and a vapour phase, if solid salt separates out, another phase appears in the system.

the amount of  $B$ , and, by difference,  $CR$  determines the amount  $A$ . For the point chosen, therefore  $A = 40$ ,  $B = 40$ ,  $C = 20$ .

(i) Suppose the substance  $A$  melts at  $320^\circ$ ,  $B$  at  $300^\circ$ , and  $C$  at  $305^\circ$ , and that the point  $D$  represents an eutectic alloy<sup>1</sup> of  $A$  and  $C$  melting at  $215^\circ$ ;  $E$ , of an eutectic alloy of  $A$  and  $B$  melting at  $207^\circ$ ;  $F$ , of an eutectic alloy of  $B$  and  $C$  melting at  $268^\circ$ .

(ii) Along the line  $DO$ , the system  $A$  and  $C$  has a solid phase; along  $EO$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  have a solid phase; and along  $FO$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  have a solid phase.

(iii) At the triple point  $O$ , the system  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  exists in the three-solid, solution and vapour-phases at a temperature at  $186^\circ$  (say).

(iv) Any point in the area  $ADOE$  represents a system comprising solid, solution and vapour of  $A$ ,—in the solution, the two components  $B$  and  $C$  are dissolved in  $A$ . Any point in the area  $CDOF$  represents a system comprising solid, solution and vapour of  $C$ ,—in the solution,  $A$  and  $B$  are dissolved in  $C$ . Any point in the area  $BEOF$  represents a system comprising solid, solution and vapour of  $B$ ,—in the solution,  $A$  and  $C$  are dissolved in  $B$ .

Each apex of the triangle not only represents  $100\%$  of a substance, but also the temperature at which the respective substances  $A$ ,  $B$ , or  $C$  melt;  $D$ ,  $E$ ,  $F$  also represent temperatures at which the respective eutectic alloys melt. It follows, therefore, that the temperature at  $D$  is lower than at either  $A$  or  $C$ . Similarly the temperature at  $E$  is lower than at  $A$  or  $B$ , and at  $F$  lower than at either  $B$  or  $C$ . The melting points, therefore, rise as we pass from one of the points  $D$ ,  $E$ ,  $F$  to an apex on either side.

For details the reader is referred to W. D. Bancroft's *The Phase Rule*, Ithaca, 1897.

### § 45. Orders of Curves.

The order of a curve corresponds with the degree of its equation. The degree of any term may be regarded as the sum of the exponents of the variables it contains; the degree of an equation is that of the highest term in it. For example, the equation  $xy + x + b^3y = 0$ , is of the second degree if  $b$  is constant; the equation  $x^3 + xy = 0$ , is of the third degree;  $x^2yz^3 + ax = 0$ , is of the sixth degree, and so on. A line of the first order is represented by the general equation of the first degree

$$ax + by + c = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

This equation is that of a *straight line* only. A line of the second order is represented by the general equation of the second degree between two variables, namely,

$$ax^2 + bxy + cy^2 + fx + gy + h = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

---

<sup>1</sup> An *eutectic alloy* is a mixture of two substances in such proportions that the alloy melts at a lower temperature than a mixture of the same two substances in any other proportions.

This equation includes, as particular cases, every possible form of equation in which no term contains  $x$  and  $y$  as factors more than twice. The term  $bxy$  can be made to disappear by changing the direction of the rectangular axes, and the terms containing  $fx$  and  $gy$  can be made to disappear by changing the origin of the co-ordinate axes. Every equation of the second degree can be made to assume one of the forms

$$ax^2 + cy^2 = h, \text{ or, } y^2 = fx. \quad (3)$$

The first can be made to represent a *circle*,<sup>1</sup> *ellipse*, or *hyperbola*; the second a *parabola*. Hence every equation of the second degree between two variables includes four species of curves—circle, ellipse, parabola and hyperbola.

It must be here pointed out that if two equations of the first degree with all their terms collected on one side be multiplied together we obtain an equation of the second degree which is satisfied by any quantity which satisfies either of the two original equations. *An equation of the second degree may thus represent two straight lines*, as well as one of the above species of curves.

The condition that the general equation of the second degree may represent two straight lines is that

$$(bg - 2cf)^2 = (b^2 - 4ac)(g^2 - 4ch). \quad (4)$$

The general equation of the second degree will represent a parabola, ellipse, or hyperbola, according as  $b^2 - 4ac$ , is zero, negative, or positive.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the graph of the equation

$$2x^2 - 10xy + 12y^2 + 5x - 16y - 8 = 0,$$

represents two straight lines. Hint.  $a=2$ ;  $b=-10$ ;  $c=12$ ;  $f=5$ ;  $g=-16$ ;  $h=-8$ ;  $(bg - 2cf)^2 = 1600$ ;  $(b^2 - 4ac)(g^2 - 4ch) = 1600$ .

(2) Show that the graph of  $x^2 - 2xy + y^2 - 8x + 16 = 0$  represents a parabola. Hint. From (2),  $b^2 - 4ac = -2 \times -2 - 4 \times 1 \times 1 = 0$ .

(3) Show that the graph of  $x^2 - 6xy + y^2 + 2x + 2y + 2 = 0$  represents a hyperbola. Here  $b^2 - 4ac = -6 \times -6 - 4 \times 1 \times 1 = 32$ .

## § 46. Coordinate Geometry in Three Dimensions.—Geometry in Space.

Methods have been described for representing changes in the state of a system involving two variable magnitudes by the locus of a point moving in a plane according to a fixed law defined by

---

<sup>1</sup> The circle may be regarded as an ellipse with major and minor axes equal.

the equation of the curve. Such was the  $pv$ -diagram described on page 111. There, a series of isothermal curves were obtained, when  $\theta$  was made constant during a set of corresponding changes of  $p$  and  $v$  in the well-known equation  $pv = R\theta$ .

When any three magnitudes,  $x, y, z$ , are made to vary together we can, by assigning arbitrary values to two of the variables, find corresponding values for the third, and refer the results so obtained to three fixed and intersecting planes called the **coordinate planes**. Of the resulting eight quadrants, four of which are shown in Fig. 39, only the first is utilized to any great extent in mathematical physics. This mode of graphic representation is called *geometry in space*, or geometry in three dimensions. The lines formed by the intersection of these planes are the **coordinate axes**. It is necessary that the student have a clear idea of a few properties of lines and surfaces in working many physical problems.

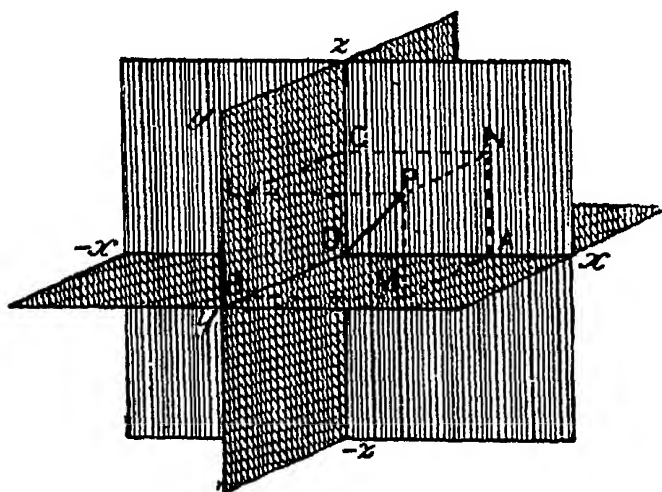


FIG. 39.—Cartesian Coordinates—Three Dimensions.

If we get a series of sets of corresponding values of  $x, y, z$  from the equation

$$x + y = z,$$

and refer them to coordinate axes in three dimensions, as described below, the result is a *plane* or *surface*. If one of the variables remains constant, the resulting figure is a *line*. A surface may, therefore, be considered to be the locus of a line moving in space.

*I. To find the point whose coordinates  $OA, OB, OC$  are given.* The position of the point  $P$  with reference to the three coordinate planes  $xOy, xOz, yOz$  (Fig. 39) is obtained by dropping perpendiculars  $PL, PM, PN$  from the given point on to the three planes. Complete the parallelepiped, as shown in Fig. 39. Let  $OP$  be a diagonal. Then  $LP = OA, PN = BO, MP = OC$ . Draw three planes through  $A, B, C$  parallel respectively to the coordinate planes; the point of intersection of the three planes, namely  $P$ , will be the required point.

If the coordinates of  $P$ , parallel to  $Ox, Oy, Oz$ , are respectively  $x, y$  and  $z$ , then  $P$  is said to be the point  $x, y, z$ . A similar con-

vention with regard to the sign is used as in analytical geometry of two dimensions. It is conventionally agreed that lines measured from below upwards shall be positive, and lines measured from above downwards negative; lines measured from left to right positive, and from right to left negative; lines measured inwards from the plane of the paper are negative, lines measured towards the reader are positive.

If a watch be placed in the plane  $xy$  with its face pointing upwards, towards  $+z$ , the hands of the watch move in a negative direction; if the watch be in the  $xz$  plane with its face pointing towards the reader, the hands also move in a negative direction.

II. To find the distance of a point from the origin in terms of the rectangular coordinates of that point. In Fig. 40, let  $Ox$ ,  $Oy$ ,  $Oz$  be three rectangular axes,  $P(x, y, z)$  the given point such that  $MP = z$ ,  $AM = y$ ,  $OA = x$ . It is required to find the distance  $OP = r$ , say.

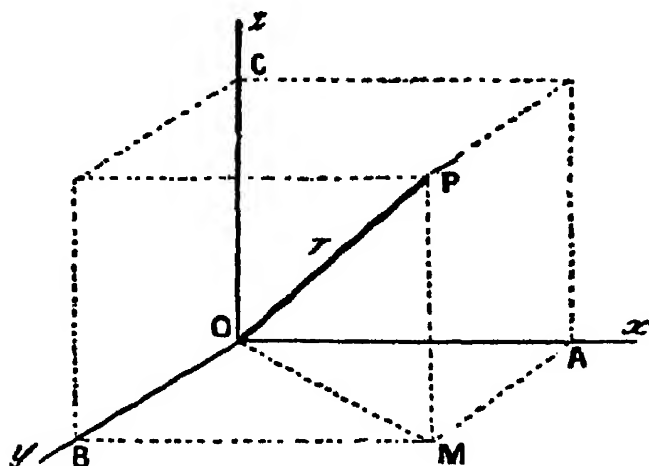


FIG. 40.

$$OP^2 = OM^2 + MP^2; \text{ or, } r^2 = OM^2 + z^2,$$

but

$$OM^2 = AM^2 + OA^2 = x^2 + y^2.$$

$$\therefore r^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \quad (1)$$

In words, the sum of the squares of the three coordinates of a point are equal to the square of the distance of that point from the origin.

EXAMPLE.—Find the distance of the point  $(2a, -3a, 6a)$  from the origin.  
Hint.  $r = \sqrt{4a^2 + 9a^2 + 36a^2} = 7a$ .

Let the angle  $AOP = \alpha$ ;  $BOP = \beta$ ;  $POC = \gamma$ , then

$$x = r \cos \alpha; \quad y = r \cos \beta; \quad z = r \cos \gamma. \quad (2)$$

These equations are true wherever the point  $P$  may lie, and therefore the signs of  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$  are always the same as those of  $\cos \alpha$ ,  $\cos \beta$ ,  $\cos \gamma$  respectively. Substituting these values in (1), and dividing through by  $r^2$ , we get the following relation between the three angles which any straight line makes with the coordinate axes



$$\cos^2\alpha + \cos^2\beta + \cos^2\gamma = 1. \quad (3)$$

The cosines of the angles  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  which the given line makes with the axes  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$  respectively are called the **direction cosines**, and are often symbolized by the letters  $l$ ,  $m$ ,  $n$ . Thus (3) becomes

$$l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1.$$

If we know  $r$ ,  $\cos \alpha$ ,  $\cos \beta$ , and  $\cos \gamma$  we are able to fix the position of the point. If  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  are proportional to the direction cosines of some line, we can at once find the direction cosines. For, from page 23, if

$$l : a = m : b = n : c; \therefore l = ra; m = rb; n = rc.$$

Substitute in the preceding equation, and we get at once

$$l = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}; m = \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}; n = \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}.$$

**EXAMPLE.**—The direction cosines of a line are proportional to 3, -4, and 2. Find their values. Ansr.  $3\sqrt{\frac{1}{25}}$ ,  $-4\sqrt{\frac{1}{25}}$ ,  $2\sqrt{\frac{1}{25}}$ . Hint.  $a=3$ ,  $b=-4$ ,  $c=2$ .

**III.** To find the distance between two points in terms of their rectangular coordinates. Let  $P_1(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ ,  $P_2(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  be the given points, it is required to find the distance  $P_1P_2$  in terms of the coordinates of the points  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . Draw planes through  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  parallel to the coordinate planes so as to form the parallelepiped  $ABCDE$ . Join  $P_2E$ .

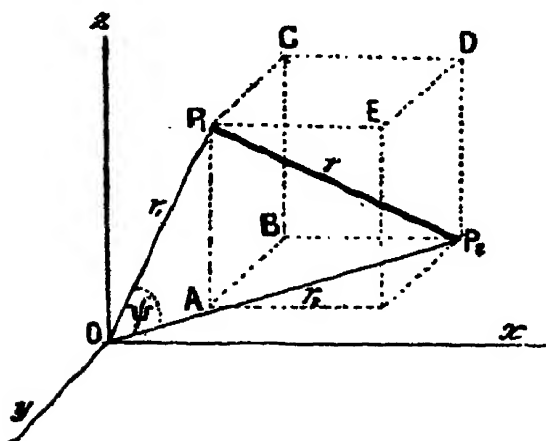


FIG. 41.

By the construction (Fig. 41), the angle  $P_1EP_2$  is a right angle. Hence

$$(P_1P_2)^2 = (P_1E)^2 + (P_2E)^2 = (P_1E)^2 + (ED)^2 + (P_2D)^2.$$

But  $P_1E$  is evidently the difference of the distance of the foot of the perpendiculars from  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  on the  $x$ -axis, or  $P_1E = x_2 - x_1$ . Similarly,  $ED = y_2 - y_1$ ;  $P_2D = z_2 - z_1$ . Hence

$$r^2 = (x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2. \quad (4)$$

**EXAMPLE.**—Find the distance between the points (3, 4, -2) and (4, -3, 1). Here  $x_1 = 4$ ;  $y_1 = -3$ ;  $z_1 = 1$ ;  $x_2 = 3$ ;  $y_2 = 4$ ;  $z_2 = -2$ . Ansr.  $r = \sqrt{59}$ .

*IV. Polar coordinates.* Instead of referring the point to its Cartesian coordinates in three dimensions, we may use polar coordinates. Let  $P$  (Fig. 42) be the given point whose rectangular coordinates are  $x, y, z$ ; and whose polar coordinates are  $r, \theta, \phi$ , as shown in the figure.

*I. To pass from rectangular to polar coordinates.* (See page 96.)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x &= OA = OM \cos \phi = r \sin \theta \cdot \cos \phi \\ y &= AM = OM \sin \phi = r \sin \theta \cdot \sin \phi \\ z &= MP = r \cos \theta. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (5)$$

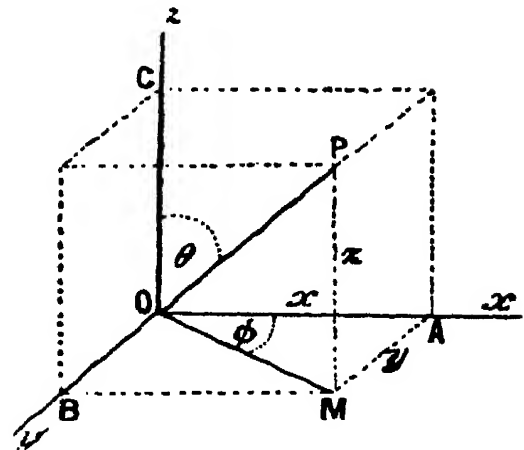


FIG. 42.—Polar Coordinates in Three Dimensions.

*II. To pass from polar to rectangular coordinates.*

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}; \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{z}; \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}. \quad (6)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the rectangular coordinates of the point  $(3, 60^\circ, 30^\circ)$   
Ansr.  $(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{3}, \frac{3}{2})$ .

(2) Find the polar coordinates of the point  $(3, 12, 4)$ . Ansr. The point  $(13, \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{153}, \tan^{-1} 4)$ .

According to the **parallelogram of velocities**, “if two component velocities  $OA, OB$  (Fig. 43) are represented in direction and magnitude by two sides of a parallelogram drawn from a point,  $O$ , the resultant velocity can be represented in direction and magnitude by the diagonal,  $OP$ , of the parallelogram drawn from that point”. The **parallelopiped of velocities** is an extension of the preceding result into three dimensions. “If three component velocities are represented in direction and magnitude by the adjacent sides of a parallelopiped,  $OA, OC, OB$  (Fig. 42), drawn from a point,  $O$ , their resultant velocity can be represented by the diagonal of a parallelopiped drawn from that point.” Conversely, if the velocity of the moving system is represented in magnitude and direction by the diagonal  $OP$  (Fig. 42) of a parallelopiped, this can be resolved into three component velocities represented in direction and magnitude by three sides  $x, y, z$  of the parallelopiped drawn from a point.

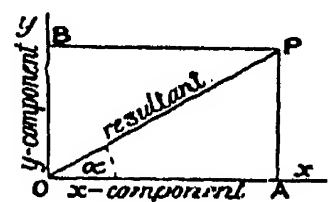


FIG. 43.—Parallelogram of Velocities.

We assume that if any contradictory facts really existed we

should have known them long ago. A continental text-book has forty-five theoretical demonstrations of this important principle. But we are slowly learning the lesson taught by John Stuart Mill that the "real and only proof of any law of Nature... is experi-

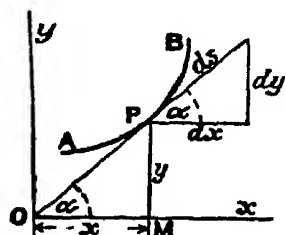


FIG. 44.

ence". The daily comparison of a new rule with experience, and the testing of its consequences under the most diverse conditions is, after the lapse of a reasonable period of time, a more satisfactory proof than clumsy deductions drawn from obscure premises.<sup>1</sup>

If the point  $P$  travels along the path  $APB$  (Fig. 44) so as to trace a path  $s$  units long, then, when  $x = OM$ , and  $y = MP$ , let  $dx$ ,  $dy$ , and  $ds$  be infinitesimals such that

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = \cos \alpha; \quad \frac{dy}{ds} = \sin \alpha; \quad \text{or,} \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{ds}{dt} \cos \alpha; \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{ds}{dt} \sin \alpha \quad (7)$$

and

$$(ds)^2 = (dx)^2 + (dy)^2; \quad \text{or,} \quad \left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2. \quad (8)$$

The corresponding formulæ in three dimensions are very obvious.

EXAMPLES.—(1) A comet moves upon the parabolic path  $y^2 = 4ax$ ; find its rate of approach to the sun which is placed at the focus of its orbit. Let  $r$  denote the distance from the focus to any point  $P(x, y)$  on the parabola. Hence, from the definition of a parabola  $r = x + a$ ;  $\therefore dr/dt = dx/dt$ . Or its rate of approach to the sun is the same as its horizontal velocity. Let  $s$  denote the length of the path, then  $ds/dt = \text{velocity of motion} = V$ , say. But by differentiation of the given equation,

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{2a}{y} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}; \quad \therefore V^2 = \left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \frac{4a^2}{y^2} \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 \quad \therefore \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{yV}{\sqrt{y^2 + 4a^2}},$$

or the comet approaches the sun with  $y(y^2 + 4a^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  times its velocity. At the vertex of the parabola,  $y = 0$ ,  $dx/dt = 0$ , or the comet is not approaching the sun at all.

(2) Show that the ordinate of a point moving on the parabola  $y^2 = 4x$  changes  $2/y$  times as fast as the abscissa; and if, at the point  $x = 4$ , the abscissa is changing at the rate of 20 ft. per second, at what rate is the ordinate changing? Hint. If  $x = 4$ ,  $y = \pm 4$ ; hence

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{2}{y} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}; \quad \therefore \frac{dy}{dt} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}.$$

<sup>1</sup> E. Mach. Of course we only deal with one velocity. The resolving of one velocity into three component velocities is a mathematical fiction to assist reasoning. This is not necessary in "Vector analysis," page 116, which has replaced "coordinate geometry" in the mathematical treatment of many physical problems.

Hence  $dy/dt = \pm \frac{1}{2} \times 20 = \pm 10$ . Or the ordinate increases or decreases at the rate of 10 ft. per sec.

(3) Let a particle move with a velocity  $V$  in space. From the parallelo-piped of velocities,  $V$  can be resolved into three component velocities  $V_1, V_2, V_3$ , along the  $x$ -,  $y$ - and  $z$ -axes respectively. Hence show that

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = V_1; \frac{dy}{dt} = V_2; \frac{dz}{dt} = V_3, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

which may be written

$$dx = d(V_1 t + x_0); dy = d(V_2 t + y_0); dz = d(V_3 t + z_0), \quad . \quad (10)$$

where  $x_0, y_0, z_0$  are constants. Hence we may write the relation between the space described by the particles in each dimension and the time as

$$x = V_1 t + x_0; y = V_2 t + y_0; z = V_3 t + z_0. \quad . \quad . \quad (11)$$

Obviously  $x_0, y_0, z_0$  are the coordinates of the initial position of the particle when  $t = 0$ . Hence  $x_0, y_0, z_0$  are to be regarded as constants.

If the reader cannot follow the steps taken in passing from (9) to (11), he can take Lagrange's advice to the student of a mathematical text-book: "Allez en avant, et la foi vous viendra," in other words, "go on but return to strengthen your powers. Work backwards and forwards".

Obviously,  $x_0, y_0, z_0$  represent the positions of the particle at the beginning of the observation, when  $t = 0$ . Let  $s$  denote the length of the path traversed by the particle at the time  $t$ , when the coordinates of the point are  $x, y$  and  $z$ . Obviously, by the aid of Fig. 41,

$$s = \sqrt{(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2 + (z - z_0)^2}; \text{ or, } s = \sqrt{V_1^2 + V_2^2 + V_3^2} \cdot t,$$

from (11).  $s$  can therefore be determined from the initial and final positions of the particle.

## § 47. Lines in Three Dimensions.

*I. To find the angle between two straight lines whose direction cosines are given.* Join  $OP_1$  (Fig. 41) and  $OP_2$ . Let  $\psi$  be the angle between these two lines. In the triangle  $P_2OP_1$  if  $OP_1 = r_1$ ,  $OP_2 = r_2$ ,  $P_1P_2 = r$ , we get from the properties of triangles given on page 603,

$$r^2 = r_1^2 + r_2^2 - 2r_1r_2 \cos \psi.$$

Rearranging terms and substituting for  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  in (1), we obtain

$$r_1^2 = x_1^2 + y_1^2 + z_1^2; r_2^2 = x_2^2 + y_2^2 + z_2^2,$$

$$\therefore \cos \psi = \frac{x_1x_2 + y_1y_2 + z_1z_2}{r_1r_2}$$

We can express this another way by substituting,

$$x_1 = r_1 \cos \alpha_1; x_2 = r_2 \cos \alpha_2; y_2 = r_2 \cos \beta_2 \dots,$$

as in (2), and we obtain

$$\cos \psi = \cos \alpha_1 \cdot \cos \alpha_2 + \cos \beta_1 \cdot \cos \beta_2 + \cos \gamma_1 \cdot \cos \gamma_2 \quad (12)$$

or, 
$$\cos \psi = l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2, \quad . \quad . \quad (13)$$

where  $\psi$  represents the angle between two straight lines whose direction cosines are known.

(i) When the lines are perpendicular to one another,  $\psi = 90^\circ$ ,  $\therefore \cos \psi = \cos 90^\circ = 0$ , and therefore

$$\cos \alpha_1 \cdot \cos \alpha_2 + \cos \beta_1 \cdot \cos \beta_2 + \cos \gamma_1 \cdot \cos \gamma_2 = 0, \quad (14)$$

or, 
$$x_1 x_2 + y_1 y_2 + z_1 z_2 = 0.$$

(ii) If the two lines are parallel,

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_2; \beta_1 = \beta_2; \gamma_1 = \gamma_2 \quad . \quad . \quad (15)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the acute angle between the lines whose direction cosines are  $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}$ , and  $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}$ . Hint.  $l_1 = l_2 = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}$ ;  $m_1 = m_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $n_1 = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}$ ;  $n_2 = -\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}$ . Use (13).

(2) Let  $V_1, V_2, V_3$  be the velocity components (page 125) of a particle moving with the velocity  $V$ ; let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  be the angles which the path described by the moving particle makes with the  $x$ -,  $y$ - and  $z$ -axes respectively, then show

$$ds \cdot \cos \alpha = dx; \therefore \frac{dx/dt}{ds/dt} = \frac{1}{V} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} = \cos \alpha. \quad . \quad . \quad (16)$$

Hence,

$$V_1 = \frac{dx}{dt} = V \cos \alpha; V_2 = \frac{dy}{dt} = V \cos \beta; V_3 = \frac{dz}{dt} = V \cos \gamma; \quad . \quad (17)$$

and consequently, from (3),

$$V = ds/dt = \sqrt{V_1^2 + V_2^2 + V_3^2}. \quad . \quad . \quad (18)$$

The resolved part of  $V$  along a given line inclined at angles  $\alpha_1, \beta_1, \gamma_1$  to the axes will be

$$V \cos \psi = V_1 \cos \alpha_1 + V_2 \cos \beta_1 + V_3 \cos \gamma_1, \quad . \quad . \quad (19)$$

where  $\psi$  denotes the angle which the path described by the particle makes with the given line. Hint. Multiply (12) by  $V$ , etc.

(3) To find the direction of motion of the particle moving on the line  $s$  (i.e.,  $r$  of Fig. 40). Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  denote the angles made by the direction of  $s$  with the respective axes  $x, y, z$ . With the same notation,

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{x - x_0}{s}; \cos \beta = \frac{y - y_0}{s}; \cos \gamma = \frac{z - z_0}{s}. \quad . \quad . \quad (20)$$

Now introduce the values of  $x - x_0, y - y_0$ , and of  $z - z_0$  from (20), and show that

$$\cos \alpha : \cos \beta : \cos \gamma = V_1 : V_2 : V_3. \quad . \quad . \quad (21)$$

**II. Projection.** If a perpendicular be dropped from a given point upon a given plane the point where the perpendicular touches the plane is the **projection of the point  $P$**  upon that plane. For instance, in Fig. 39, the projection of the point  $P$  on the plane  $xOy$  is  $M$ , on the plane  $xOz$  is  $N$ , and on the plane  $yOz$  is  $L$ .

Similarly, the projection of the point  $P$  upon the lines  $Ox$ ,  $Oy$ ,  $Oz$  is at  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  respectively.

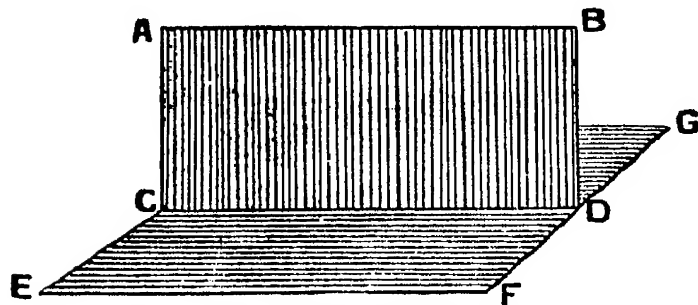


FIG. 45.—Projecting Plane.

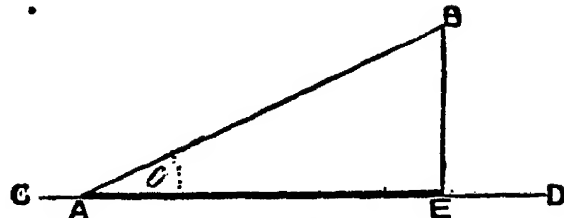


FIG. 46.

In the same way the **projection of a curve** on a given plane is obtained by projecting every point in the curve on to the plane. The plane, which contains all the perpendiculars drawn from the different points of the given curve, is called the **projecting plane**. In Fig. 45,  $CD$  is the projection of  $AB$  on the plane  $EFG$ ;  $ABCD$  is the projecting plane.

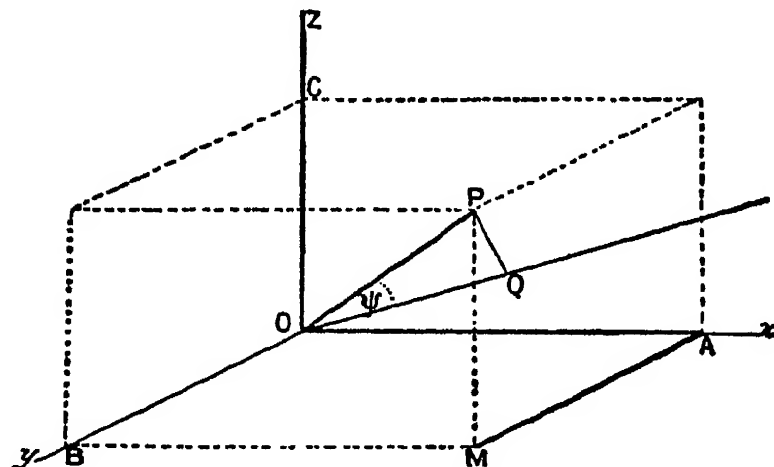


FIG. 47.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) The projection of any given line on an intersecting line is equal to the product of the length of the given line into the cosine of the angle of intersection. In Fig. 46, the projection of  $AB$  on  $CD$  is  $AE$ , but  $AE = AB \cos \theta$ .

(2) In Fig. 47, show that the projection of  $OP$  on  $OQ$  is the algebraic sum of the projections of  $OA$ ,  $AM$ ,  $MP$ , taken in this order, on  $OQ$ . Hence, if  $OA = x$ ,  $OB = AM = y$ ,  $OC = PM = z$  and  $OP = r$ , from (12)

$$r \cos \psi = x \cos \alpha + y \cos \beta + z \cos \gamma. \quad (22)$$

**III. The equation of a straight line in rectangular coordinates.** Suppose a straight line in space to be formed by the intersection of two projecting planes. The coordinates of any point on the line of intersection of these planes will obviously satisfy the equation of

each plane. Let  $ab$ ,  $a'b'$  be the projection of the given line  $AB$  on the  $xOz$  (where  $y = 0$ ) and the  $yOz$  (where  $x = 0$ ) planes, then (Fig. 48),

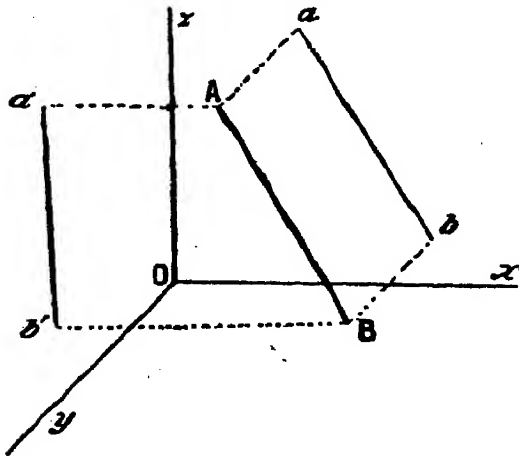


FIG. 48.

$$x = mz + c; \quad y = m'z + c' \quad (23)$$

Of the four independent constants,  $m$  represents the tangent of the angle which the projection of the given line on the  $xOz$  plane makes with the  $x$ -axis;  $m'$  the tangent of the angle made by the line projected on the  $yOz$  plane with the  $y$ -axis;  $c$  is the distance intercepted by the projection of the given line

along the  $x$ -axis;  $c'$  a similar intersection along the  $y$ -axis. Hence we infer that two simultaneous equations of the first degree represent a straight line.

EXAMPLE.—The equations of the projections of a straight line on the coordinate planes  $xz$  and  $xy$  are  $x = 2z + 3$ , and  $y = 3z - 5$ . Show that the equation of the projection on the  $xy$  plane is  $2y = 3x - 19$ .  $c' = -5$ ;  $c = 3$ ;  $m = 2$ ;  $m' = 3$ ; eliminate  $z$ ; etc. Ansr.  $2y - 3x + 19 = 0$ .

If, now, a particular value be assigned to either variable in either of these equations, the value of the other two can be readily calculated. These two equations, therefore, represent a straight line in space.

The difficulties of three-dimensional geometry are greatly lessened if we bear in mind the relations previously developed for simple curves in two dimensions. It will be obvious, for instance, from page 94, that if the straight line is to pass through a given point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ , the coordinates of the given point must satisfy the equations of the curve. Hence, from (23), we must also have

$$x_1 = mz_1 + c; \quad y_1 = m'z_1 + c'. \quad (24)$$

Subtracting (24) from (23), we get

$$x - x_1 = m(z - z_1); \quad y - y_1 = m'(z - z_1) \quad (25)$$

which are the equations of a straight line passing through the point  $x_1, y_1, z_1$ .

If the line is to pass through two points  $x_1, y_1, z_1$ , and  $x_2, y_2, z_2$ , we get, by the method of page 94,

$$\frac{x - x_1}{z - z_1} = \frac{x_2 - x_1}{z_2 - z_1}; \quad \frac{y - y_1}{z - z_1} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{z_2 - z_1}. \quad (26)$$

which are the equations of the straight line passing through the two given points.

EXAMPLE.—Show that the equations  $x + 8z = 19$ ;  $y = 10x - 24$  pass through the points  $(3, -4, 2)$  and  $(-5, 6, 3)$ .

If  $x, y, z$  denote the coordinates of any point  $A$  on a given straight line; and  $x_1, y_1, z_1$ , the known coordinates of another point  $P$  on the straight line such that the distance between  $A$  and  $P$  is  $r$ , then it can be shown that the equation of the line assumes the symmetrical form:  $r =$

$$\frac{x - x_1}{l} = \frac{y - y_1}{m} = \frac{z - z_1}{n} \quad (27)$$

where  $l, m$  and  $n$  are the direction cosines of the line. This equation gives us the equation of a straight line in terms of its direction cosines and any known point upon it. (27) is called the **symmetrical equation of a straight line**.

EXAMPLE.—If a line makes angles of  $60^\circ, 45^\circ$ , and  $60^\circ$  respectively with the three axes  $x, y$  and  $z$ , and passes through the point  $(1, -3, 2)$ , show that the equation of the line is  $x - 1 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}(y + 3) = z - 2$ . Hint.  $\cos 60^\circ = \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\cos 45^\circ = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

If the two lines

$$x = m_1z + c_1; y = m_1'z + c_1'; \quad (28)$$

$$x = m_2z + c_2; y = m_2'z + c_2', \quad (29)$$

intersect, they must have a point in common, and the coordinates of this point must satisfy both equations. In other words,  $x, y$  and  $z$  will be the same in both equations— $x$  of the one line is equal to  $x$  of the other.

$$\therefore (m_1 - m_2)z + c_1 - c_2 = 0, \quad (30)$$

$$(m_1' - m_2')z + c_1' - c_2' = 0. \quad (31)$$

But the  $z$  of one line is also equal to  $z$  of the other, hence, if the relation

$$(c_1' - c_2')(m_1 - m_2) = (c_1 - c_2)(m_1' - m_2'), \quad (32)$$

subsists the two lines will intersect.

EXAMPLE.—Show that the two lines  $x=3z+7, y=5z+8$ ; and  $x=2z+3, y=4z+4$  intersect. Hint.  $(8-4)(3-2) = (7-3)(4-3)$ .

The coordinates of the point of intersection are obtained by substituting (30) or (31) in (28), or (29). Note that if  $m_1 = m_1'$  or  $m_2 = m_2'$ , the values of  $x, y$  and  $z$  then become infinite, and the two lines will be in parallel planes; if both  $m_1 = m_1'$  and  $m_2 = m_2'$ , they will be parallel.



## § 48. Surfaces and Planes.

I. To find the equation of a plane surface in rectangular co-ordinates. Let  $ABC$  (Fig. 49) be the given plane

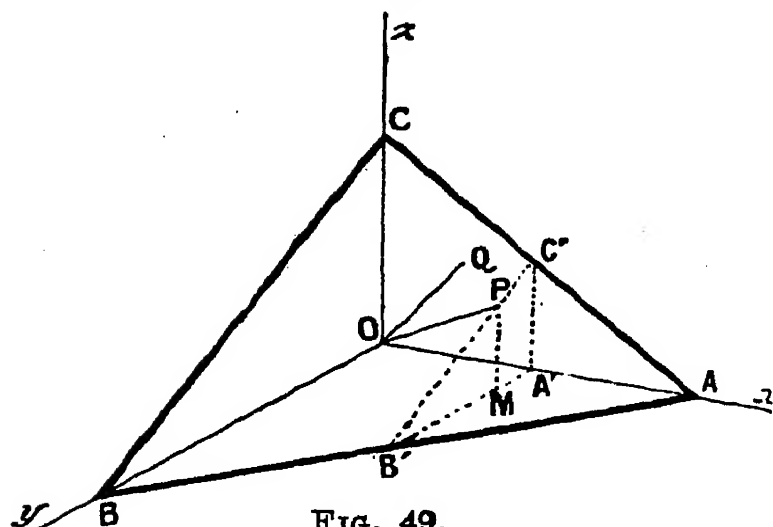


FIG. 49.

whose equation is to be determined. Let the given plane cut the co-ordinate axes at points  $A, B, C$  such that  $OA = a, OB = b, OC = c$ . From any point  $P(x, y, z)$  drop the perpendicular  $PM$  on to the  $yOx$  plane. Then  $OA' = x, MA' = y$  and  $MP = z$ .

It is required to find an equation connecting the co-ordinates  $x, y$  and  $z$  respectively with the intercepts  $a, b, c$ . From the similar triangles  $AOB, AA'B'$ ,

$$OA : BO = A'A : B'A'; \text{ or, } a : b = a - x : B'A',$$

$$\therefore B'A' = b - \frac{bx}{a}; \text{ also } B'M = B'A' - MA' = b - y - \frac{bx}{a}.$$

Again, from the similar triangles  $COB, C'A'B', PMB'$ , page 603,

$$OC : BO = MP : B'M;$$

$$\text{or, } c : b = z : b - y - \frac{bx}{a}; \therefore bz = bc - cy - \frac{bcx}{a}.$$

Divide through by  $bc$ ; rearrange terms and we get the **intercept equation of the plane**, i.e., the equation of a plane expressed in terms of its intercepts upon the three axes:

$$\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} = 1, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (33)$$

an equation similar to that developed on page 90. In other words, equation (33) represents a plane passing through the points  $(a, 0, 0), (0, b, 0), (0, 0, c)$ .

If  $ABC$  (Fig. 49) represents the face, or plane of a crystal, the intercepts  $a, b, c$  on the  $x, y$ - and  $z$ -axes are called the *parameters* of that plane. The parameters in crystallography are usually expressed in terms of certain axial lengths assumed unity. If  $OA = a, OB = b, OC = c$ , any other plane, whose

intercepts on the  $x$ -,  $y$ - and  $z$ -axes are respectively  $p$ ,  $q$  and  $r$ , is defined by the ratios

$$\frac{a}{p} : \frac{b}{q} : \frac{c}{r}.$$

These quotients are called the parameters of the new plane. The reciprocals of the parameters are the *indices* of a crystal face. The several systems of crystallographic notation, which determine the position of the faces of a crystal with reference to the axes of the crystal, are based on the use of parameters and indices.

We may write equation (33) in the form,

$$Ax + By + Cz + D = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad (34)$$

which is the most general equation of the first degree between three variables. Equation (33) is the **general equation of a plane surface**. It is easily converted into (34) by substituting  $Aa + D = 0$ ,  $Bb + D = 0$ ,  $Cc + D = 0$ .

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Find the equation of the plane passing through the three points (3, 2, 4), (0, 4, 1), and (−2, 1, 0). Ansr.  $11x - 3y - 13z + 25 = 0$ . Hint. From (33),

$$\frac{3}{a} + \frac{2}{b} + \frac{4}{c} = 1; \quad \frac{4}{b} + \frac{1}{c} = 1; \quad -\frac{2}{a} + \frac{1}{b} = 1; \quad \therefore a = -\frac{25}{11}; \quad b = \frac{25}{3}; \quad c = \frac{25}{13}.$$

(2) Find the equation of the plane through the three points (1, 0, 0), (0, 2, 0), (0, 0, 3). Ansr.  $x + \frac{1}{2}y + \frac{1}{3}z = 1$ . Use (33) or (34).

If  $OQ = r$  (Fig. 49) be normal, that is, perpendicular to the plane  $ABC$ , the projection of  $OP$  on  $OQ$  is equal to the sum of the projections of  $OA'$ ,  $PM$ ,  $MA'$  on  $OQ$ , Ex. (2), page 129. Hence, the perpendicular distance of the plane from the origin is

$$x \cos \alpha + y \cos \beta + z \cos \gamma = r. \quad . \quad . \quad (35)$$

This is called the **normal equation of the plane**, that is, the equation of the plane in terms of the length and direction cosines of the normal from the origin. From (34), we get

$$\cos^2 \alpha : \cos^2 \beta : \cos^2 \gamma = A^2 : B^2 : C^2;$$

and by componendo,<sup>1</sup>

$$(\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \gamma) : \cos^2 \alpha = A^2 + B^2 + C^2 : A^2.$$

But by (3), the term in brackets on the left is unity, consequently

<sup>1</sup> If  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  and  $d$  are proportional, the text-books on algebra tell us that  $a : b = c : d$ ; and it therefore follows by "invertendo":  $b : a = d : c$ ; and by "alternando":  $a : c = b : d$ ; and by "componendo":  $a + b : b = c + d : d$ ; and by "dividendo":  $a - b : b = c - d : d$ ; and by "convertendo":  $a : a - b = c : c - d$  and by "componendo et dividendo":  $a \pm b : a \mp b = c \pm d : c \mp d$ .

the direction cosines of the normal to the plane are

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{A}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}};$$

$$\cos \beta = \frac{B}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}};$$

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{C}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}}.$$

The ambiguity of sign is removed by comparing the sign of the absolute term in (34) and (35). Dividing equation (34) through with  $+\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}$ , we can write

$$r = - \frac{D}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}}. \quad (36)$$

EXAMPLE.—Find the length of the perpendicular from the origin to the plane whose equation is  $2x - 4y + z - 8 = 0$ . Ansr.  $8\sqrt{5}$ . Hint.  $A = 2$ ,  $B = -4$ ,  $C = 1$ ,  $D = 8$ . Use the right member of the equation (36).

II. *Surfaces of revolution.* Just as it is sometimes convenient to suppose a line to have been generated by the motion of a point, so surfaces may be produced by a straight or curved line moving according to a fixed law represented by the equation of the curve. The moving line is called the *generator*. Surfaces produced by the motion of straight lines are called **ruled surfaces**. When the straight line is continually changing the plane of its motion, **twisted or skew surfaces**—*surfaces gauches*—are produced. Such is the helix, the thread of a screw, or a spiral staircase. On the other hand, if the plane of the motion of a generator remains constant, a **developable surface** is produced. Thus, if the line rotates round a fixed axis, the surface cut out is called a *surface of revolution*. A *sphere* may be formed by the rotation of a circle about a diameter; a *cylinder* may be formed by the rotation of a rectangle about one of its sides as axis; a *cone* may be generated by the revolution of a triangle about its axis; an *ellipsoid* of revolution, by the rotation of an ellipse about its major or minor axes; a *paraboloid*, by the rotation of a parabola about its axis. If a hyperbola rotates about its transverse axis, two *hyperboloids* will be formed by the revolution of both branches of the hyperbola. On the other hand, only one hyperboloid is formed by rotating the hyperbolas about their conjugate axes. In the former case, the *hyperboloid* is said to be of *two sheets*, in the latter, of *one sheet*.

III. To find the equation of the surface of a right cylinder. Let one side of a rectangle rotate about  $Oz$  as axis. Any point on the outer edge will describe the circumference of a circle. If  $P(x, y, z)$  (Fig. 50) be any point on the surface,  $r$  the radius of the cylinder, then the required equation is

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2. \quad (37)$$

The equation of a right cylinder is thus independent of  $z$ . This means that  $z$  may have any value whatever assigned to it.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the equation of a right cone is  $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 \tan^2 \phi = 0$ , where  $\phi$  represents half the angle at the apex of the cone. Hint. Origin of axes is at apex of cone; let the  $z$ -axis coincide with the axis of the cone. Find  $O'P'A'$  on the base of the cone resembling  $OPA$  (Fig. 50). Hence show  $O'P' = z \tan \phi$ . But  $O'P' = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ .

(2) The equation of a sphere is  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$ . Prove this. Centre of sphere at origin of axes. Take a section across  $z$ -axis. Find

$$O'P'A'; OP = r; (OP')^2 = (OO')^2 + (O'P')^2, (O'P')^2 = x^2 + y^2; (OO')^2 = z^2; \text{etc.}$$

The subject will be taken up again at different stages of our work.

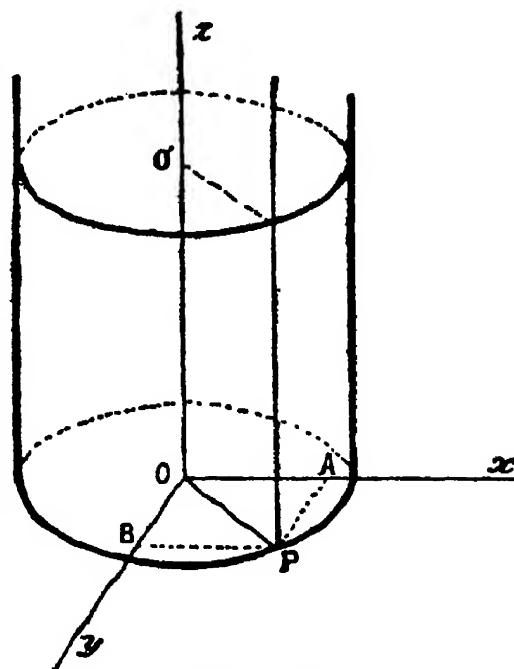


FIG. 50.

## § 49. Periodic or Harmonic Motion.

Let  $P$  (Fig. 51) be a point which starts to move from a position of rest with a uniform velocity on the perimeter of a circle. Let  $xOx', yOy'$  be coordinate axes about the centre  $O$ . Let  $P_1, P_2 \dots$  be positions occupied by the point after the elapse of intervals of  $t_1, t_2 \dots$ . From  $P_1$  drop the perpendicular  $M_1P_1$  on to the  $x$ -axis. Remembering that if the direction of  $M_1P_1, M_2P_2 \dots$  be positive, that of  $M_3P_3, M_4P_4$  is negative, and the motion of  $OP$  as  $P$  revolves

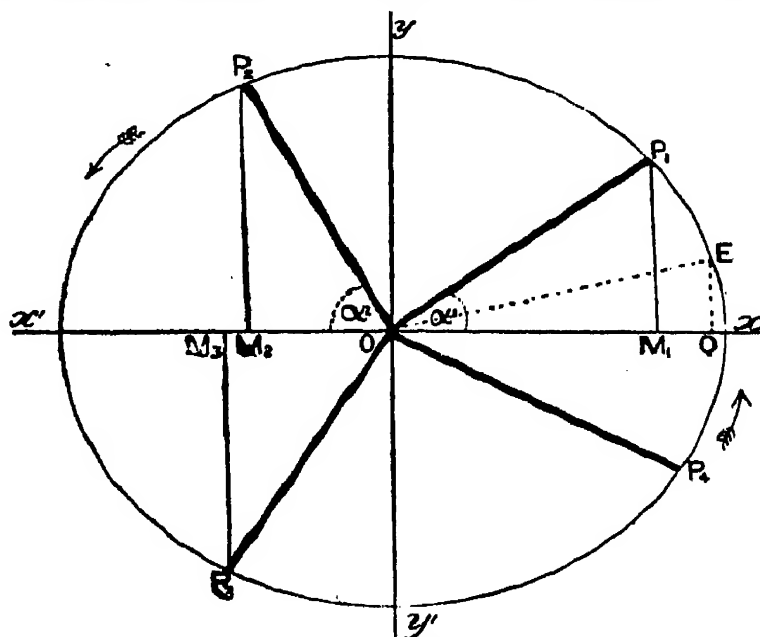


FIG. 51.—Periodic or Harmonic Motion.

about the centre  $O$  in the opposite direction to the hands of a clock is conventionally reckoned positive, then

$$\sin \alpha_1 = \frac{+M_1P_1}{+OP_1}; \sin \alpha_2 = \frac{+M_2P_2}{+OP_2}; \sin \alpha_3 = \frac{-M_3P_3}{+OP_3}; \sin \alpha_4 = \frac{-M_4P_4}{+OP_4}.$$

Or, if the circle have unit radius  $r = 1$ ,

$$\sin \alpha_1 = +M_1P_1; \sin \alpha_2 = +M_2P_2; \sin \alpha_3 = -M_3P_3; \sin \alpha_4 = -M_4P_4.$$

If the point continues in motion after the first revolution, this series of changes is repeated over and over again. During the first revolution, if we put  $\pi = 180^\circ$ , and let  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots$  represent certain angles described in the respective quadrants,

$$\theta_1 = \alpha_1; \theta_2 = \pi - \alpha_2; \theta_3 = \pi + \alpha_3; \theta_4 = 2\pi - \alpha_4.$$

During the second revolution,

$$\theta_1 = 2\pi + \alpha_1; \theta_2 = 2\pi + (\pi - \alpha_2); \theta_3 = 2\pi + (\pi + \alpha_3), \text{ etc.}$$

We may now plot the curve

$$y = \sin \alpha \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

by giving a series of values  $0, \frac{1}{2}\pi, \frac{3}{4}\pi \dots$  to  $\alpha$  and finding the corresponding values of  $y$ . Thus if

$$\begin{aligned} x = \alpha &= 0, & \frac{1}{2}\pi, & \pi, & \frac{3}{2}\pi, & 2\pi, & \frac{5}{2}\pi, \dots; \\ y &= \sin 0, & \sin \frac{1}{2}\pi, & \sin \pi, & \sin \frac{3}{2}\pi, & \sin 2\pi, & \sin \frac{5}{2}\pi, \dots; \\ y &= \sin 0^\circ, & \sin 90^\circ, & \sin 180^\circ, & \sin 270^\circ, & \sin 360^\circ, & \sin 90^\circ, \dots; \\ y &= 0, & 1, & 0, & -1, & 0, & 1, \dots \end{aligned}$$

Intermediate values are  $\sin \frac{1}{4}\pi = \sin 45^\circ = .707$ ,  $\sin \frac{3}{4}\pi = .707 \dots$

The curve so obtained has the wavy or undulatory appearance

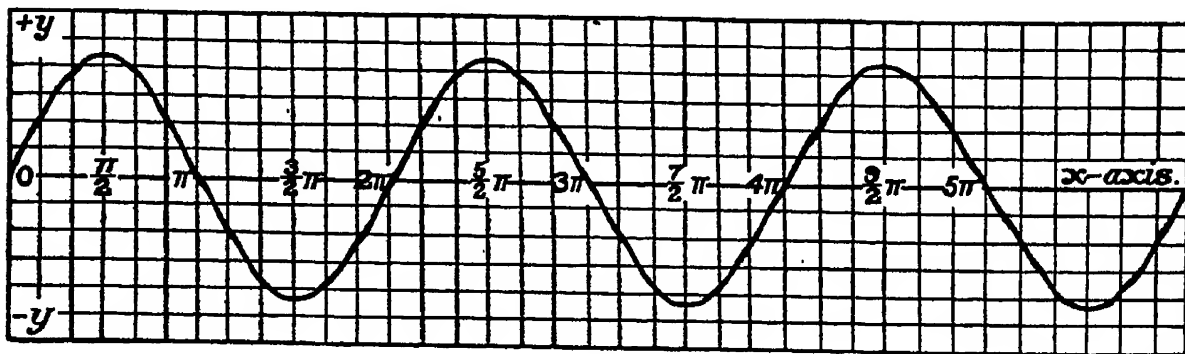


FIG. 52.—Curve of Sines, or Harmonic Curve.

shown in Fig. 52. It is called the **curve of sines** or the **harmonic curve**.

A function whose value recurs at fixed intervals when the variable uniformly increases in magnitude is said to be a **periodic**

**function.** Its mathematical expression is

$$f(t) = f(t + qt) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

where  $q$  may be any positive or negative integer. In the present case  $q = 2\pi$ . The motion of the point  $P$  is said to be a *simple harmonic motion*. Equation (1) thus represents a simple harmonic motion.

If we are given a particular value of a periodic function of, say,  $t$ , we can find an unlimited number of different values of  $t$  which satisfy the original function. Thus  $2t, 3t, 4t, \dots$ , all satisfy equation (2).

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the graph of  $y = \cos \alpha$  has the same form as the sine curve and would be identical with it if the  $y$ -axis of the sine curve were shifted a distance of  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$  to the right. [Proof:  $\sin(\frac{1}{2}\pi + \alpha) = \cos \alpha$ , etc.] The physical meaning of this is that a point moving round the perimeter of the circle according to the equation  $y = \cos \alpha$  is just  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ , or  $90^\circ$  in advance of one moving according to  $y = \sin \alpha$ .

(2) Illustrate graphically the periodicity of the function  $y = \tan \alpha$ . (Note the passage through  $\pm \infty$ .) Keep your graph for reference later on.

Instead of taking a circle of unit radius, let  $r$  denote the magnitude of the radius, then

$$y = r \sin \alpha. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

Since  $\sin \alpha$  can never exceed the limits  $\pm 1$ , the greatest and least values  $y$  can assume are  $-r$  and  $+r$ ;  $r$  is called the **amplitude** of the curve. The velocity of the motion of  $P$  determines the rate at which the angle  $\alpha$  is described by  $OP$ , the so-called **angular velocity**. Let  $t$  denote the time,  $q$  the angular velocity,

$$\frac{d\alpha}{dt} = q; \text{ or } \alpha = qt, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

and the time required for a complete revolution is

$$t = 2\pi/q, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

which is called the **period of oscillation**, the *periodic value*, or the *periodic time*;  $2\pi$  is the **wave length**. If  $E$  (Fig. 51) denotes some arbitrary fixed point such that the periodic time is counted from the instant  $P$  passes through  $E$ , the angle  $\angle xOE = \epsilon$ , is called the **epoch or phase constant**, and the angle described by  $OP$  in the time  $t = qt + \epsilon = \alpha$ , or

$$y = r \sin (qt + \epsilon). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

Electrical engineers call  $\epsilon$  the “lead” or, if negative, the “lag” of the electric current.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Plot (6), note that the angles are to be measured in radians (page 606), and that one radian is  $57.3^\circ$ . Now let  $r=10$ ,  $\epsilon = 30^\circ = 0.52$  radians. Let  $q$  denote  $0.5^\circ$ , or  $\frac{1}{114.6}$  radians.

$$\therefore y = 10 \sin (0.0087t + 0.52).$$

If  $t = 10$ ,  $y = 10 \sin 0.61 = 10 \sin 35^\circ$ , from a Table of Radians (Table XIII.). From a Table of Trigonometrical Sines,  $10 \sin 35^\circ = 10 \times 0.576 = 5.76$  we get the same result more directly by working in degrees. In this case,

$$y = 10 \sin (\frac{1}{2}t^\circ + 30^\circ).$$

If  $t=10$ , we have  $y=10 \sin 35^\circ$  as before. Then we find if  $r=10$ ,  $t=30=0.52$  radians, and if

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} t = 0, & 120, & 300, & 480, & 720; \\ y = 5, & 10, & 0, & -10, & -5. \end{array}$$

Intermediate values are obtained in the same way. The curve is shown in Fig. 53. Now try the effect of altering the value of  $\epsilon$  upon the value of  $y$ , say, you put  $\epsilon = 0, 45^\circ, 60^\circ, 90^\circ$ , and note the effect on  $Oy$  (Fig. 52).

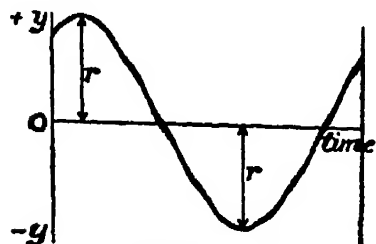


FIG. 53.

(2) It is easy to show that the function

$$a \sin (qt + \epsilon) + b \cos (qt + \epsilon) \quad (7)$$

is equal to  $A \sin (qt + \epsilon_1)$  by expanding (7) as indicated in formulæ (23) and (24), page 612. Thus we get

$\sin qt(a \cos \epsilon - b \sin \epsilon) + \cos qt(b \cos \epsilon + a \sin \epsilon) = A \sin (qt + \epsilon_1)$ , provided we collect the constant terms as indicated below.

$$A \cos \epsilon_1 = a \cos \epsilon - b \sin \epsilon; \quad A \sin \epsilon_1 = b \cos \epsilon + a \sin \epsilon. \quad (8)$$

Square equations (8) and add

$$\therefore A^2 = a^2 + b^2. \quad (9)$$

Divide equations (8), rearrange terms and show that

$$\frac{\sin (\epsilon - \epsilon_1)}{\cos (\epsilon - \epsilon_1)} = \tan (\epsilon - \epsilon_1) = -\frac{b}{a}. \quad (10)$$

(3) Draw the graphs of the two curves,

$$y = a \sin (qt + \epsilon); \text{ and } y_1 = a_1 \sin (qt + \epsilon_1).$$

Compare the result with the graph of

$$y_2 = a \sin (qt + \epsilon) + a_1 \sin (qt + \epsilon_1).$$

(4) Draw the graphs of

$$y_1 = \sin x; \quad y_2 = \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x; \quad y_3 = \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x; \quad y = \sin x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x.$$

(5) There is an interesting relation between  $\sin x$  and  $e^x$ . Thus, show that if

$$y = a \sin qt + b \cos qt; \quad \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = -q^2 y; \quad \frac{d^4 y}{dt^4} = q^4 y; \dots$$

$$y = e^{qt}; \quad \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = q^2 y; \quad \frac{d^4 y}{dt^4} = q^4 y; \dots$$

The motion of  $M$  (Fig. 51), that is to say, the projection of the moving point on the diameter of the circle  $xOx'$  is a good illustration of the periodic motion discussed in § 21. The motion of an

oscillating pendulum, of a galvanometer needle, of a tuning fork, the up and down motion of a water wave, the alternating electric current, sound, light, and electromagnetic waves are all periodic motions. Many of the properties of the chemical elements are also periodic functions of their atomic weights (Newlands-Mendeléeff law).

Some interesting phenomena have recently come to light which indicate that chemical action may assume a periodic character. The evolution of hydrogen gas, when hydrochloric acid acts on one of the allotropic forms of chromium, has recently been studied by W. Ostwald (*Zeit.*

*phys. Chem.*, **35**, 33, 204, 1900). He found that if the rate of evolution of gas evolved during the action be plotted as ordinate against the time as abscissa, a curve is

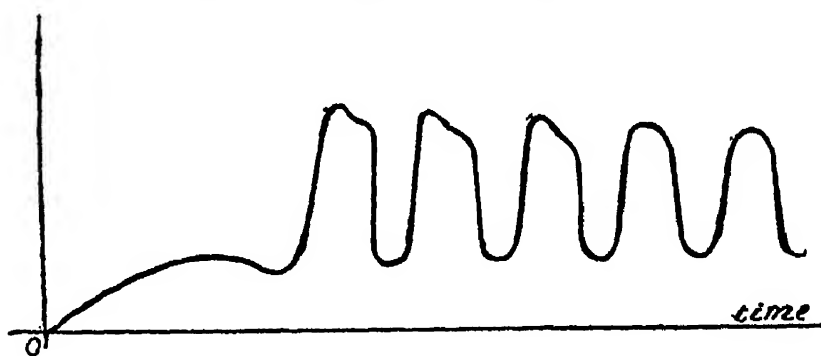


FIG. 54.—Ostwald's Curve of Chemical Action.

obtained which shows regularly alternating periods of slow and rapid evolution of hydrogen. The particular form of these "waves" varies with the conditions of the experiment. One of Ostwald's curves is shown in Fig. 54 (see J. W. Mellor's *Chemical Statics and Dynamics*, London, 348, 1904).

## § 50. Generalized Forces and Coordinates.

When a mass of any substance is subject to some physical change, certain properties—mass, chemical composition—remain fixed and invariable, while other properties—temperature, pressure, volume—vary. When the value these variables assume in any given condition of the substance is known, we are said to have a complete knowledge of the state of the system. These variable properties are not necessarily independent of one another. We have just seen, for instance, that if two of the three variables defining the state of a perfect gas are known, the third variable can be determined from the equation

$$pv = RT,$$

where  $R$  is a constant. In such a case as this, the third variable is said to be a dependent variable, the other two, independent vari-



ables. When the state of any material system can be defined in terms of  $n$  independent variables, the system is said to possess  $n$  **degrees of freedom**, and the  $n$  independent variables are called **generalized coordinates**. For the system just considered  $n = 2$ , and the system possesses two degrees of freedom.

Again, in order that we may possess a knowledge of some systems, say gaseous nitrogen peroxide, not only must the variables given by the gas equation

$$\phi(p, v, T) = 0$$

be known, but also the mass of the  $N_2O_4$  and of the  $NO_2$  present. If these masses be respectively  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ , there are five variables to be considered, namely,

$$\phi_1(p, v, T, m_1, m_2) = 0,$$

but these are not all independent. The pressure, for instance, may be fixed by assigning values to  $v, T, m_1, m_2$ ;  $p$  is thus a dependent variable,  $v, T, m_1, m_2$  are independent variables. Thus

$$p = f(v, T, m_1, m_2).$$

We know that the dissociation of  $N_2O_4$  into  $2NO_2$  depends on the volume, temperature and amount of  $NO_2$  present in the system under consideration. At ordinary temperatures

$$m_1 = f_1(v, T, m_2),$$

and the number of independent variables is reduced to three. In this case the system is said to possess three degrees of freedom. At temperatures over  $135^\circ$ — $138^\circ$  the system contains  $NO_2$  alone, and behaves as a perfect gas with two degrees of freedom.

In general, if a system contains  $m$  dependent and  $n$  independent variables, say

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots x_{n+m}$$

variables, the state of the system can be determined by  $m + n$  equations. As in the familiar condition for the solution of simultaneous equations in algebra,  $n$  independent equations are required for finding the value of  $n$  unknown quantities. But the state of the system is *defined* by the  $m$  dependent variables; the remaining  $n$  independent variables can therefore be determined from  $n$  independent equations.

Let a given system with  $n$  degrees of freedom be subject to external forces

$$X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots X_n$$

so that no energy enters or leaves the system except in the form of heat or work, and such that the  $n$  independent variables are displaced by amounts

$$dx_1, dx_2, dx_3, \dots dx_n.$$

Since the amount of work done on or by a system is measured by the product of the force and the displacement, these external forces  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  perform a quantity of work  $dW$  which depends on the nature of the transformation. Hence

$$dW = X_1 dx_1 + X_2 dx_2 + \dots X_n dx_n$$

where the coefficients  $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots$  are called the **generalized forces** acting on the system. P. Duhem, in his work, *Traité Élémentaire de Mécanique Chimique fondée sur la Thermodynamique*, Paris, 1897-99, makes use of generalized forces and generalized coordinates.

## CHAPTER III.

### FUNCTIONS WITH SINGULAR PROPERTIES.

“Although a physical law may never admit of a perfectly abrupt change, there is no limit to the approach which it may make to abruptness.”—W. STANLEY JEVONS.

#### § 51. Continuous and Discontinuous Functions.

THE law of continuity affirms that no change can take place abruptly. The conception involved will have been familiar to the reader from the second section of this work. It was there shown that the amount of substance,  $x$ , transformed in a chemical reaction in a given time becomes smaller as the interval of time,  $t$ , during which the change occurs, is diminished, until finally, when the interval of time approaches zero, the amount of substance transformed also approaches zero. In such a case  $x$  is not only a function of  $t$ , but it is a **continuous function** of  $t$ . The course of such a reaction may be represented by the motion of a point along the curve

$$x = f(t).$$

If the two states of a substance subjected to the influence of two different conditions of temperature be represented, say, by two neighbouring points on a plane, the principle of continuity affirms that the state of the substance at any intermediate temperature will be represented by a point lying between the two points just mentioned; and in order that the moving point may pass from one point,  $a$ , on the curve to another point,  $b$ , on the same curve, it must successively assume all values intermediate between  $a$  and  $b$ , and never move off the curve. This is a characteristic property of continuous functions. Several examples have been considered in the preceding chapters. Most natural processes, perhaps all, can be represented by continuous functions. Hence the old empiricism : *Natura non agit per saltum*.

The law of continuity, though tacitly implied up to the present,

does not appear to be always true. Even in some of the simplest phenomena exceptions seem to arise. In a general way, we can divide discontinuous functions into two classes: first, those in which the graph of the function suddenly stops to reappear in some other part of the plane—in other words a **break** occurs; second, those in which the graph suddenly changes its direction without exhibiting a break<sup>1</sup>—in that case a **turning point** or **point of inflexion** appears.

Other kinds of discontinuity may occur, but do not commonly arise in physical work. For example, a function is said to be discontinuous when the value of the function  $y = f(x)$  becomes infinite for some particular value of  $x$ . Such a discontinuity occurs when  $x = 0$  in the expression  $y = 1/x$ . The differential coefficient of this expression,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{x^2},$$

is also discontinuous for  $x = 0$ . Other examples, which should be verified by the reader are,  $\log x$ , when  $x = 0$ ;  $\tan x$ , when  $x = \frac{1}{2}\pi, \dots$ . The graph for Boyle's equation,  $pv = \text{constant}$ , is also said to be discontinuous at an infinite distance along both axes.

### § 52. Discontinuity accompanied by "Breaks".

If a cold solid be exposed to a source of heat, heat appears to be absorbed, and the temperature,  $\theta$ , of the solid is a function of the amount of heat,  $Q$ , apparently absorbed by the solid. As soon as the solid begins to melt, it absorbs a great amount of heat (latent heat of fusion), unaccompanied by any rise of temperature. When the substance has assumed the fluid state of aggregation, the tem-

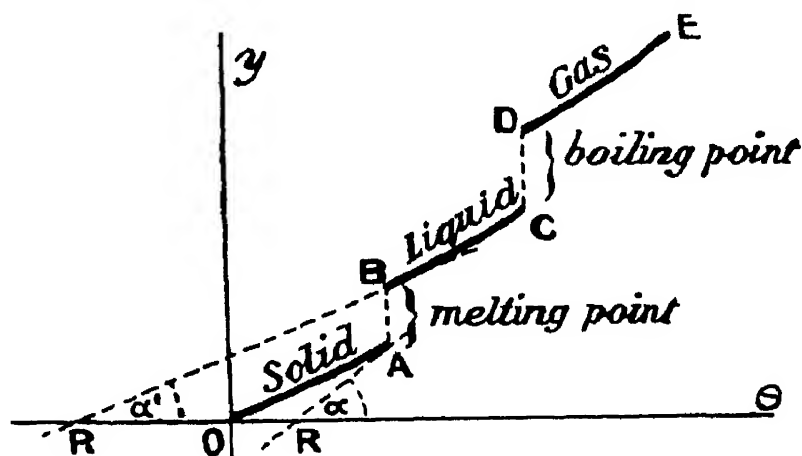


FIG. 55.

<sup>1</sup> Sometimes the word "break" is used indiscriminately for both kinds of discontinuity. It is, indeed, questionable if ever the "break" is real in natural phenomena. I suppose we ought to call turning points "singularities," not "discontinuities" (see S. Jevon's *Principles of Science*, London, 1877).

perature is a function of the amount of heat absorbed by the fluid, until, at the boiling point, similar phenomena recur. Heat is absorbed unaccompanied by any rise of temperature (latent heat of vaporization) until the liquid is completely vaporized. The phenomena are illustrated graphically by the curve  $OABCDE$  (Fig. 55). If the quantity of heat,  $Q$ , supplied be regarded as a function of the temperature,  $\theta$ , the equation of the curve  $OABCED$  (Fig. 55). will be

$$Q = f(\theta).$$

This function is said to be discontinuous between the points  $A$  and  $B$ , and between  $C$  and  $D$ . Breaks occur in these positions.  $f(\theta)$  is accordingly said to be a **discontinuous function**, for, if a small quantity of heat be added to a substance, whose state is represented by a point, between  $A$  and  $B$ , or  $C$  and  $D$ , the temperature is not affected in a perceptible manner. The geometrical signification of the phenomena is as follows: There are two generally different, tangents to the curve at the points  $A$  and  $B$  corresponding to the one abscissa, namely,  $\tan \alpha$  and  $\tan \alpha'$ . In other words, see page 102, we have

$$\frac{dQ}{d\theta} = f'(\theta) = \tan \alpha = \tan \text{angle } \theta RA;$$

$$\frac{dQ}{d\theta} = f'(\theta) = \tan \alpha' = \tan \text{angle } \theta R'A,$$

that is to say, the function  $f'(\theta)$  is discontinuous because the differential coefficient has two distinct values determined by the slope of the tangent to each curve at the point where the discontinuity occurs.

The physical meaning of the discontinuity in this example, is that the substance may have two values for its specific heat—the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of one gram of the solid one degree—at the melting point, the one corresponding to the solid and the other to the liquid state of aggregation. The tangent of the angle represented by the ratio  $dQ/d\theta$  obviously represents the specific heat of the substance. An analogous set of changes occurs at the boiling point.

It is necessary to point out that the alleged discontinuity in the curve  $OABC$  may be only apparent. The “corners” may be rounded off. It would perhaps be more correct to say that the

curve is really continuous between  $A$  and  $B$ , but that the *change* of temperature with the addition of heat is discontinuous.

Again, Fig. 56 shows the result of plotting the variations in the volume of phosphorus with temperatures in the neighbourhood of its melting point.

$AB$  represents the expansion curve of the solid,  $CD$  that of the liquid. A break occurs between  $B$  and  $C$ . Phosphorus at its melting point may thus have two distinct coefficients of ex-

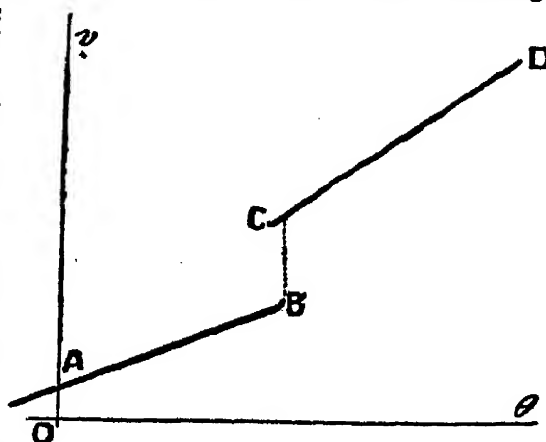


FIG. 56.

pansion, the one corresponding to the solid and the other to the liquid state of aggregation. Similar changes take place during the passage of a system from one state to another, say of rhombic to monoclinic sulphur; of a mixture of magnesium and sodium sulphates to astracanite, etc. The temperature at which this change occurs is called the "transition point".

### § 53. The Existence of Hydrates in Solution.

Another illustration. If  $p$  denotes the percentage composition of an aqueous solution of ethyl alcohol and  $s$  the corresponding specific gravity *in vacuo* at  $15^\circ$  (sp. gr.  $H_2O$  at  $15^\circ = 9991.6$ ), we have the following table compiled by Mendeléeff:—

$p$	$s$	$p$	$s$	$p$	$s$	$p$	$s$
5	9904.1	30	9570.2	55	9067.4	80	8479.8
10	9831.2	35	9484.5	60	8953.8	85	8354.8
15	9768.4	40	9389.6	65	8838.6	90	8225.0
20	9707.9	45	9287.8	70	8714.5	95	8086.9
25	9644.3	50	9179.0	75	8601.4	100	7936.6

It was found empirically that the experimental results are fairly well represented by the equation

$$s = a + bp + cp^2, \quad (1)$$

which is the general expression for a parabolic curve,  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  being constants, page 99, or the equation may embody two straight lines, page 121. By plotting the experimental data the curve shown in Fig. 57 is obtained.

It is urged that just as compounds may be formed and decom-



was discontinuous. Breaks were obtained by plotting  $ds/dp$  as ordinates against abscissa  $p$  for concentrations corresponding to 17.56, 46.00 and 88.46 per cent. of ethyl alcohol. These concentrations coincide

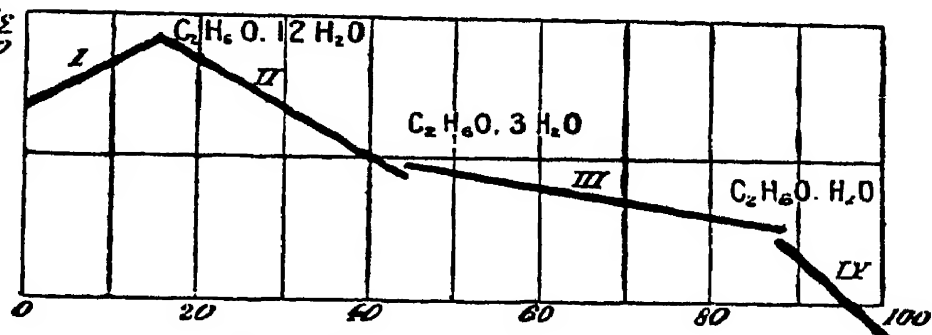


FIG. 58.—After Mendeléeff.

with chemical compounds having the composition  $C_2H_5OH \cdot 12H_2O$ ,  $C_2H_5OH \cdot 3H_2O$  and  $3C_2H_5OH \cdot H_2O$  as shown in Fig. 58. The curves between the breaks are supposed to represent the “zone” in which the corresponding hydrates are present in the solution.

The mathematical argument is that the differential coefficient of a continuous curve will differentiate into a straight line or another continuous curve; while if a curve is really discontinuous, or made up of a number of different curves, it will yield a series of straight lines. Each line represents the rate of change of the particular physical property under investigation with the amount of *hypothetical* unstable compound existing in solution at that concentration. An abrupt change in the direction of the curve leads to a breaking up of the first differential coefficient of that curve into two curves which do not meet. This argument has been extensively used by Pickering in the treatment of an elaborate and painstaking series of determinations of the physical properties of solutions. Crompton found that if the electrical conductivity of a solution is regarded as a function of its percentage composition, such that

$$K = a + bp + cp^2 + fp^3, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

the first differential coefficient gives a parabolic curve of the type of (1) above, while the second differential coefficient, instead of being a continuous function of  $p$ ,

$$\frac{d^2K}{dp^2} = A + Bp, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

was found to consist of a series of straight lines, the position of the breaks being identical with those obtained from the first differential coefficient  $ds/dp$ . The values of the constants  $A$  and  $B$  are readily obtained if  $c$  and  $p$  are known. If the slope of the  $(p, s)$ -curve



changes abruptly,  $ds/dp$  is discontinuous; if the slope of the  $(ds/dp, p)$ -curve changes abruptly,  $d^2s/dp^2$  is discontinuous.

But after all we are only working with empirical formulæ, and “no juggling with feeble empirical expressions, and no appeal to the mysteries of elementary mathematics can legitimately make experimental results any more really discontinuous than they themselves are able to declare themselves to be when properly plotted”.<sup>1</sup>

It must be pointed out that the differentiation of experimental results very often furnishes quantities of the same order of magnitude as the experimental errors themselves.<sup>2</sup> This is a very serious objection. Pickering has tried to eliminate the experimental errors, to some extent, by differentiating the results obtained by “smoothing” the curve obtained by plotting the experimental results. On the face of it this “smoothing” of experimental results is a dangerous operation even in the hands of the most experienced workers. Indeed, it is supposed that that prince of experimenters, Regnault, overlooked an important phenomenon in applying this very smoothing process to his observations on the vapour pressure of saturated steam. Regnault supposed that the curve  $OPQ$  (Fig. 64) showed no singular point at  $P$  (Fig. 64) when water passed from the liquid to the solid state at  $0^\circ$ . It was reserved for J. Thomson to prove that the ice-steam curve has a different slope from the water-steam curve.

### § 54. The Smoothing of Curves.

The results of observations of a series of corresponding changes

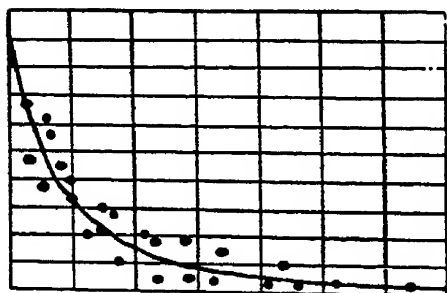


FIG. 59.—Smoothed Curve.

in two variables are represented by light dots on a sheet of squared paper. The dots in Fig. 59 represent the vapour pressures of dissociating ammonium carbonate at different temperatures. A curve is drawn to pass as nearly as possible through all these points. The resulting curve is assumed to be a graphic representation of the general formula

(known or unknown) connecting the two variables. Points devi-

<sup>1</sup> O. J. Lodge, *Nature*, 40, 273, 1889; S. U. Pickering, *ib.*, 40, 343, 1889.

<sup>2</sup> This paragraph will be better understood after Chapter V., § 106, has been studied. The reader may then return to this section.

ating from the curve are assumed to be affected with errors of observation. As a general rule the curve with the least curvature is chosen to pass through or within a short distance of the greatest number of dots, so that an equal number of these dots (representing experimental observations) lies on each side of the curve. Such a curve is said to be a **smoothed curve** (see also page 320).

One of the commonest methods of smoothing a curve is to pin down a flexible lath to points through which the curve is to be drawn and draw the pen along the lath. It is found impossible in practice to use similar laths for all curves. The lath is weakest where the curvature is greatest. The selection and use of the lath is a matter of taste and opinion. The use of "French curves" is still more arbitrary. Pickering used a bent spring or steel lath held near its ends. Such a lath is shown in statical works to give a line of constant curvature. The line is called an "elastic curve" (see G. M. Minchin's *A Treatise on Statics*, Oxford, 2, 204, 1886).

### § 55. Discontinuity accompanied by a Sudden Change of Direction.

The vapour pressure of a solid increases continuously with rising temperature until, at its melting point, the vapour pressure "suddenly" begins to increase more rapidly than before. This is shown graphically in Fig. 60. The substance melts at the point of intersection of the "solid" and "liquid" curves. The vapour pressure itself is not discontinuous. It has the same value at the melting point for both solid and liquid states of aggregation. It is, however, quite clear that the tangents of the two curves differ from each other at the transition point, because

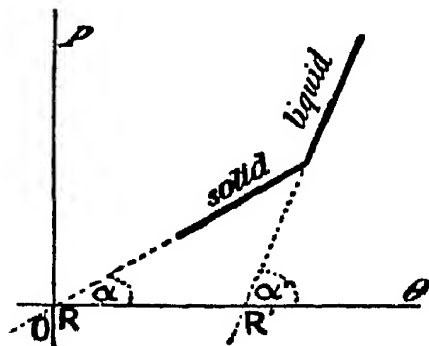


FIG. 60.

$\tan \alpha = f(\theta) = \frac{dp}{d\theta}$  is less than  $\tan \alpha' = f(\theta) = \frac{dp}{d\theta}$ .

There are two tangents to the  $p\theta$ -curve at the transition point. The value of  $dp/d\theta$  for solid benzene, for example, is greater than for the liquid. The numbers are 2.48 and 1.98 respectively.

If the equations of the two curves were respectively  $ax + by = 1$ ; and  $bx + ay = 1$ , the roots of these two equations,

$$x = \frac{1}{a+b}; y = \frac{1}{a+b},$$

would represent the coordinates of the point of intersection, as indicated on page 94. To illustrate this kind of discontinuity we shall examine the following phenomena:—

*I. Critical temperature.* Cailletet and Collardeau have an ingenious method for finding the **critical temperature** of a substance without seeing the liquid.<sup>1</sup> By plotting temperatures as abscissæ against the vapour pressures of different weights of the same substance heated at constant volume, a series of curves are obtained which are coincident as long as *part* of the substance is liquid, for “the pressure exerted by a saturated vapour depends

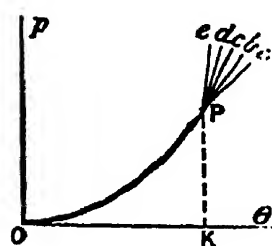


FIG. 61.

on temperature only and is independent of the quantity of liquid with which it is in contact”. Above the critical temperature the different masses of the substance occupying the same volume give different pressures. From this point upwards the pressure-temperature curves are no longer superposable. A series of curves are thus obtained

which coincide at a certain point *P* (Fig. 61), the abscissa, *OK*, of which denotes the critical temperature. As before, the tangent of each curve *Pa*, *Pb* . . . is different from that of *OP* at the point *P*.

*II. Cooling curves.* If the temperature of cooling of pure liquid bismuth be plotted against time, the resulting curve, called a **cooling curve** (*ab*, Fig. 62), is continuous, but the moment a part of the

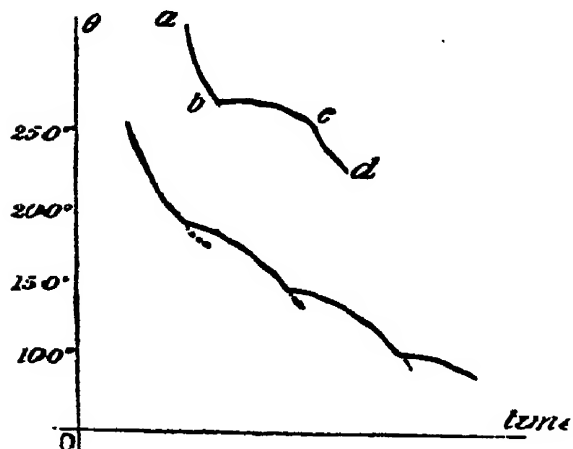


FIG. 62.—Cooling Curves.

metal solidifies, the curve will take another direction *bc*, and continue so until all the metal is solidified, when the direction of the curve again changes, and then continues quite regularly along *cd*. For bismuth the point *b* is at 268°.

If the cooling curve of an alloy of bismuth, lead and tin (Bi, 21; Pb, 5·5; Sn, 75·5) is similarly plotted, the first change of direction is observed at 175°, when solid bismuth is deposited; at 125° the curve again changes its direction,

<sup>1</sup>L. P. Cailletet and E. Collardeau, *Ann. Chim. Phys.*, [6], 25, 522, 1891. Note that the *critical temperature* is the temperature above which a substance cannot exist other than in the gaseous state.

with a simultaneous deposition of solid bismuth and tin; and finally at  $96^\circ$  another change occurs corresponding to the solidification of the eutectic alloy of these three metals.

These cooling curves are of great importance in investigations on the constitution of metals and alloys. The cooling curve of iron from a white heat is particularly interesting, and has given rise to much discussion. The curve shows changes of direction at about  $1,130^\circ$ , at about  $850^\circ$  (called  $Ar_3$  critical point), at about  $770^\circ$  (called  $Ar_2$  critical point), at about  $500^\circ$  (called the  $Ar_1$  critical point), at about  $450^\circ$ — $500^\circ$  C., and at about  $400^\circ$  C. The magnitude of these changes varies according to the purity of the iron. Some are very marked even with the purest iron. This sudden evolution of heat (recalcescence) at different points of the cooling curve has led many to believe that iron exists in some allotropic state in the neighbourhood of these temperatures.<sup>1</sup> Fig. 63 shows part of a cooling curve of iron in the most interesting region, namely, the  $Ar_3$  and  $Ar_2$  critical points.

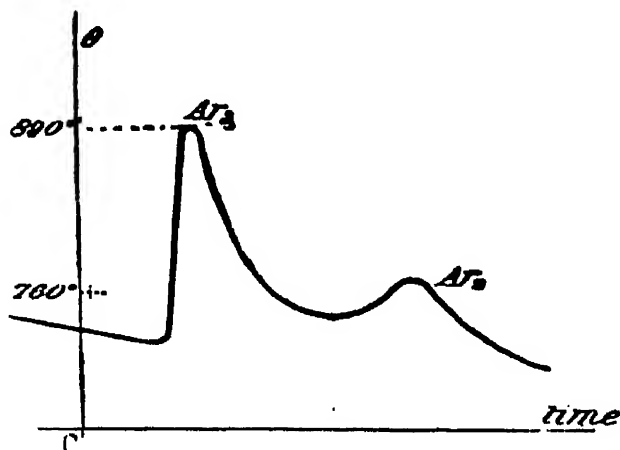


FIG. 63.—Diagrammatic.

### § 56. The Triple Point.

Another example, which is also a good illustration of the beauty and comprehensive nature of the graphic method of representing natural processes, may be given here.

(a) When water, partly liquid, partly vapour, is enclosed in a vessel, the relation between the pressure and the temperature can be represented by the curve  $PQ$  (Fig. 64), which gives the pressure corresponding with any given temperature when the liquid and vapour are in contact and in equilibrium. This curve is called the **steam line**.

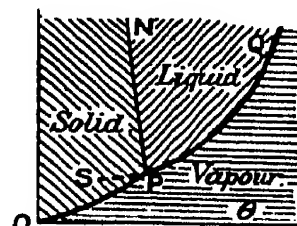


FIG. 64.—Triple Point.

(b) In the same way if the enclosure were filled with solid ice,

<sup>1</sup> W. C. Roberts-Austen's papers in the *Proc. Soc. Mechanical Engineers*, 543, 1891; 102, 1893; 238, 1895; 31, 1897; 35, 1899, may be consulted for fuller details.

and liquid water, the pressure of the mixture would be completely determined by the temperature. The relation between pressure and temperature is represented by the curve  $PN$ , called the **ice line**.

(c) Ice may be in stable equilibrium with its vapour, and we can plot the variation of the vapour pressure of ice with its temperature. The curve  $OP$  so obtained represents the variation of the vapour pressure of ice with temperature. It is called the **hoar frost line**.

The plane of the paper is thus divided into three parts bounded by the three curves  $OP$ ,  $PN$ ,  $PQ$ . If a point falls within one of these three parts of the plane, it represents water in one particular state of aggregation, ice, liquid or steam.<sup>1</sup> When a point falls on a boundary line it corresponds with the coexistence of two states of aggregation. Finally, at the point  $P$ , and only at this point, the three states of aggregation, ice, water, and steam may coexist together. This point is called the **triple point**. For water the coordinates of the triple point are

$$p = 4.58 \text{ mm.}, T = 0.0076^\circ \text{ C.}$$

1. *Influence of pressure on the melting-point of a solid.* The two formulæ,  $dQ = Td\phi$ ;  $(\partial Q/\partial v)_T = T(\partial p/\partial T)_v$ , were discussed on pages 81 and 82. Divide the former by  $dv$  and substitute the result in the latter. We thus obtain,

$$\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial v}\right)_T = \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

which states that the change of entropy,  $\phi$ , per unit change of volume,  $v$ , at a constant temperature ( $T^\circ$  absolute), is equal to the change of pressure per unit change of temperature at constant volume. If a small amount of heat,  $dQ$ , be added to a substance existing partly in one state, "1," and partly in another state, "2," a proportional quantity,  $dm$ , of the mass changes its state, such that

$$dQ = L_{12}dm,$$

where  $L_{12}$  is a constant representing the latent heat of the change from state "1" to state "2". From the definition of entropy,  $\phi$ ,

---

<sup>1</sup> Certain unstable conditions (*metastable states*) are known in which a liquid may be found in the solid region. A supercooled liquid, for instance, may continue the  $QP$  curve along to  $S$  instead of changing its direction along  $PM$ .

$$dQ = Td\phi; \text{ hence } d\phi = \frac{L_{12}}{T}dm. \quad (2)$$

If  $v_1, v_2$  be the specific volumes of the substance in the first and second states respectively

$$dv = v_2dm - v_1dm = (v_2 - v_1)dm.$$

From (2) and (1)

$$\therefore \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial v}\right)_T = \frac{L_{12}}{T(v_2 - v_1)}; \quad \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v = \frac{L_{12}}{T(v_2 - v_1)}. \quad (3)$$

This last equation tells us at once how a change of pressure will change the temperature at which two states of a substance can coexist, provided that we know  $v_1, v_2, T$  and  $L_{12}$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) If the specific volume of ice is 1.087, and that of water unity, find the lowering of the freezing point of water when the pressure increases one atmosphere (latent heat of ice = 80 cal.). Here  $v_2 - v_1 = 0.087$ ,  $T = 273$ ,  $dp = 76$  cm. mercury. The specific gravity of mercury is 13.5, and the weight of a column of mercury of one square cm. cross section is  $76 \times 13.5 = 1,033$  grams. Hence  $dp = 1,033$  grams,  $L_{12} = 80$  cal. =  $80 \times 47,600$  C.G.S. or dynamical units. From (3),  $dT = 0.0064^\circ$  C. per atmosphere.

(2) For naphthalene  $T = 352.2$ ,  $v_2 - v_1 = 0.146$ ;  $L_{12} = 35.46$  cal. Find the change of melting point per atmosphere increase of pressure.  $dT = 0.031$ .

II. *The slopes of the  $pT$ -curves at the triple point.* Let  $L_{12}, L_{23}, L_{31}$  be the latent heats of conversion of a substance from states 1 to 2; 2 to 3; 3 to 1 respectively;  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  the respective volumes of the substance in states 1, 2, 3 respectively; let  $T$  denote the absolute temperature at the triple point. Then  $dp/dT$  is the slope of the tangent to these curves at the triple point, and

$$\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_{12} = \frac{L_{12}}{T(v_2 - v_1)}; \quad \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_{23} = \frac{L_{23}}{T(v_3 - v_2)}; \quad \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_{31} = \frac{L_{31}}{T(v_1 - v_3)}. \quad (4)$$

The specific volumes and the latent heats are generally quite different from the three changes of state, and therefore the slopes of the three curves at the triple point are also different. The difference in the slopes of the tangents of the solid-vapour (hoar frost line), and the liquid-vapour (steam line) curves of water (Fig. 39) is

$$\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_{13} - \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_{23} = \frac{1}{T} \left( \frac{L_{13}}{v_3 - v_1} - \frac{L_{23}}{v_3 - v_2} \right). \quad (5)$$

At the triple point

$$L_{13} = L_{12} + L_{23}; \text{ and } (v_3 - v_1) = (v_2 - v_1) + (v_3 - v_2). \quad (6)$$

EXAMPLE.—As a general rule, the change of volume on melting,  $(v_2 - v_1)$ , is very small compared with the change in volume on evaporation,  $(v_3 - v_2)$ ,

or sublimation,  $(v_3 - v_1)$ ; hence  $v_2 - v_1$  may be neglected in comparison with the other volume changes. Then, from (5) and (6),

$$\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_{13} - \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_{23} = \frac{L_{12}}{T(v_3 - v_2)} \quad (7)$$

Hence calculate the difference in the slope of the hoar frost and steam lines for water at the triple point. Latent heat of water = 80;  $L_{12} = 80 \times 42,700$ ;  $T = 273$ ,  $v_3 - v_2 = 209,400$  c.c. Substitute these values on the right-hand side of the last equation. Ansr. 0.059.

The above deductions have been tested experimentally in the case of water, sulphur and phosphorus; the results are in close agreement with theory.

### § 57. Maximum and Minimum Values of a Function.

By plotting the rates,  $V$ , at which illuminating gas flows through the gasometer of a building as ordinates, with time,  $t$ , as abscissæ, a curve resembling the adjoining diagram (Fig. 65) is obtained.

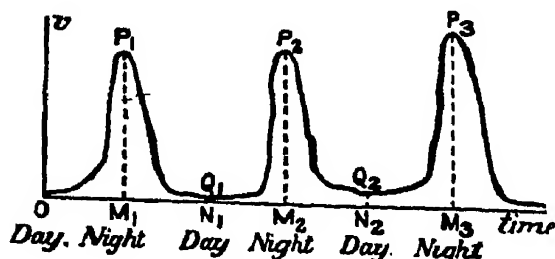


FIG. 65.

It will be seen that very little gas is consumed in the day time, while at night there is a relatively great demand. Observation shows that as  $t$  changes from one value to another,  $V$  changes in such a way that it is sometimes increasing and sometimes decreasing. In conse-

quence, there must be certain values of the function for which  $V$ , which had previously been increasing, begins to decrease, that is to say,  $V$  is greater for this particular value of  $t$  than for any adjacent value; in this case  $V$  is said to have a **maximum value**. Conversely, there must be certain values of  $f(t)$  for which  $V$ , having been decreasing, begins to increase. When the value of  $V$ , for some particular value of  $t$ , is less than for any adjacent value of  $t$ ,  $V$  is said to be a **minimum value**.

Imagine a variable ordinate of the curve to move perpendicularly along  $Ot$ , gradually increasing until it arrives at the position  $M_1P_1$ , and afterwards gradually decreasing. The ordinate at  $M_1P_1$  is said to have a maximum value. The decreasing ordinate, continuing its motion, arrives at the position  $N_1Q_1$ , and after that gradually increases. In this case the ordinate at  $N_1Q_1$  is said to have a minimum value.

The terms "maximum" and "minimum" do not necessarily

denote the greatest and least possible values which the function can assume, for the same function may have several maximum and several minimum values, any particular one of which may be greater or less than another value of the same function. In walking across a mountainous district every hill-top would represent a maximum, every valley a minimum.

The mathematical form of the function employed in the above illustration is unknown, the curve is an approximate representation of corresponding values of the two variables determined by actual measurements.

EXAMPLE.—Plot the curve represented by the equation  $y = \sin x$ . Give  $x$  a series of values  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ ,  $\pi$ ,  $\frac{3}{2}\pi$ ,  $2\pi$ , and so on. Show that

Maximum values of  $y$  occur for  $x = \frac{1}{2}\pi$ ,  $\frac{5}{2}\pi$ ,  $\frac{9}{2}\pi$ , . . .

Minimum values of  $y$  occur for  $x = -\frac{1}{2}\pi$ ,  $\frac{3}{2}\pi$ ,  $\frac{7}{2}\pi$ , . . .

The resulting curve is the harmonic or sine curve shown in Fig. 52, page 136.

One of the most important applications of the differential calculus is the determination of maximum and minimum values of a function. Many of the following examples can be solved by special algebraic or geometric devices. The calculus, however, offers a sure and easy method for the solution of these problems.

### § 58. How to find Maximum and Minimum Values of a Function.

If a cricket ball be thrown up into the air, its velocity,  $ds/dt$ , will go on diminishing until the ball reaches the highest point of its ascent. Its velocity will then be zero. After this, the velocity of the ball will increase until it is caught in the hand. In other words,  $ds/dt$  is first positive, then zero, and then negative. This means that the distance,  $s$ , of the ball from the ground will be greatest when  $ds/dt$  is least;  $s$  will be a maximum when  $ds/dt$  is zero.

We generally reckon distances up as positive, and distances down as negative. We naturally extend this to velocities by making velocities directed upwards positive, and velocities directed downwards negative. Thus the velocity of a falling stone is negative although it is constantly getting numerically greater (*i.e.*, algebraically less). We also extend this convention to directed acceleration; but we frequently call an increasing velocity positive, and a decreasing velocity negative as indicated on page 18.



NUMERICAL ILLUSTRATION.—The distance,  $s$ , of a body from the ground at any instant,  $t$ , is given by the expression

$$s = \frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0t,$$

where  $v_0$  represents the velocity of the body when it started its upward or downward journey;  $g$  is a constant equal to  $-32$  when the body is going upwards, and to  $+32$  when the body is coming down. Now let a cricket ball be sent up from the hand with a velocity of 64 feet per second, it will attain its highest point when  $ds/dt$  is zero, but

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = -32t + v_0; \therefore t = \frac{v_0}{32} = \frac{64}{32}, \text{ when } \frac{ds}{dt} = 0.$$

Let us now trace the different values which the tangent to the curve at any point  $X$  (Fig. 66) assumes as  $X$  travels from  $A$  to  $P$ ;

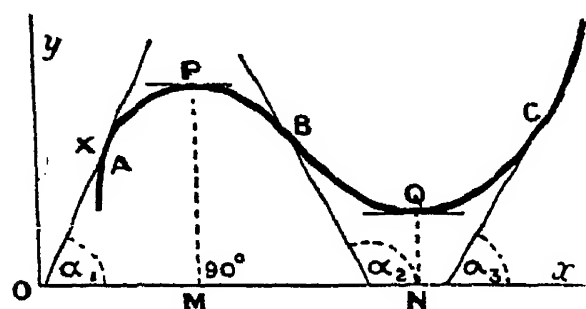


FIG. 66.—Maximum and Minimum.

from  $P$  to  $B$ ; from  $B$  to  $Q$ ; and from  $Q$  to  $C$ ; let  $\alpha$  denote the angle made by the tangent at any point on the curve with the  $x$ -axis. Remember that  $\tan 0^\circ = 0$ ;  $\tan 90^\circ = \infty$ ; when  $\alpha$  is less than  $90^\circ$ ,  $\tan \alpha$  is positive; and when  $\alpha$  is greater than  $90^\circ$  and less than  $180^\circ$   $\tan \alpha$  is negative.

First, as  $P$  travels from  $A$  to  $P$ ,  $x$  increases,  $y$  increases. The tangent to the curve makes an acute angle,  $\alpha_1$ , with the  $x$ -axis. In this case,  $\tan \alpha$  is positive, and also

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = +. \quad (1)$$

At  $P$ , the tangent is parallel to the  $x$ -axis;  $y$  is a maximum, that is to say,  $\tan \alpha$  is zero, and

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0; \quad (2)$$

Secondly, immediately after passing  $P$ , the tangent to the curve makes an obtuse angle,  $\alpha_2$ , with the  $x$ -axis, that is to say,  $\tan \alpha$  is negative, and

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -. \quad (3)$$

The tangent to the curve reaches a minimum value at  $NQ$ ; at  $Q$  the tangent is again parallel to  $x$ -axis,  $y$  is a minimum and  $\tan \alpha$ , as well as

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0. \quad (4)$$

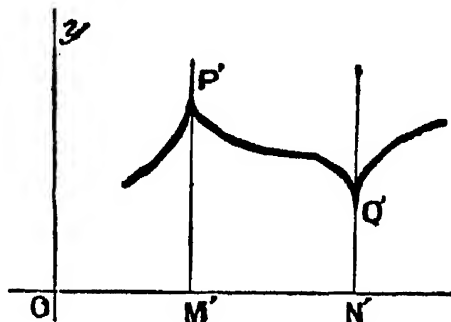
After passing  $Q$ , again we have an acute angle,  $\alpha_3$ , and,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = +. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

Thus we see that every time  $dy/dx$  becomes zero,  $y$  is either a maximum or a minimum. Hence the rule: When the first differential coefficient changes its sign from a positive to a negative value the function has a maximum value, and when the first differential coefficient changes its sign from a negative to a positive value the function has a minimum value.

There are some curves which have maximum and minimum values very much resembling  $P'$  and  $Q'$  (Fig. 67). These curves are said to have cusps at  $P'$  and  $Q'$ .

It will be observed, in Fig. 67, that  $x$  increases and  $y$  approaches a maximum value while the tangent  $M'P'$  makes an acute angle with the  $x$ -axis, that is to say,  $dy/dx$  is positive. At  $P'$  the tangent becomes perpendicular to the  $x$ -axis, and in consequence the ratio  $dy/dx$  becomes *in-*



*finite*. The point  $P'$  is called a **cusp**. After passing  $P'$ ,  $dy/dx$  is negative. In the same way it can be shown that as the tangent approaches  $N'Q'$ ,  $dy/dx$  is negative, at  $Q'$ ,  $dy/dx$  becomes *infinite*, and after passing  $Q'$ ,  $dy/dx$  is positive. Now plot  $y = x^{\frac{2}{3}}$ , and you will get a cusp at  $O$ .

FIG. 67.—Maximum and Minimum Cusps.

A function may thus change its sign by becoming zero or infinity, it is therefore necessary for the first differential coefficient of the function to assume either of these values in order that it may have a maximum or a minimum value. Consequently, in order to find all the values of  $x$  for which  $y$  possesses a maximum or a minimum value, the first differential coefficient must be equated to zero or infinity and the values of  $x$  which satisfy these conditions determined.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Consider the equation  $y = x^2 - 8x$ ,  $\therefore dy/dx = 2x - 8$ . Equating the first differential coefficient to zero, we have  $2x - 8 = 0$ ; or  $x = 4$ . Add  $\pm 1$  to this root and substitute for  $x$  in the original equation,

$$\text{when } x = 3, y = 9 - 24 = -15;$$

$$x = 4, y = 16 - 32 = -16;$$

$$x = 5, y = 25 - 40 = -15.$$

$y$  is therefore a minimum when  $x = 4$ , since a slightly greater or a slightly less value of  $x$  makes  $y$  assume a greater value. The addition of  $\pm 1$  to the root gives only a first approximation. The minimum value of the function

might have been between 3 and 4; or between 4 and 5. The approximation may be carried as close as we please by using less and less numerical values in the above substitution. Suppose we substitute in place of  $\pm 1$ ,  $\pm h$ , then

$$\text{when } x = 4 - h, y = h^2 - 16;$$

$$x = 4, \quad y = -16;$$

$$x = 4 + h, y = h^2 - 16.$$

Therefore, however small  $h$  may be, the corresponding value of  $y$  is greater than  $-16$ . That is to say,  $x=4$  makes the function a minimum,  $Q$  (Fig. 68). You can easily see that this is so by plotting the original equation as in Fig. 68.

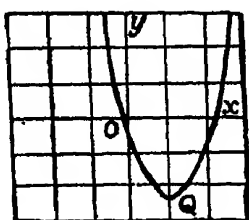


FIG. 68.

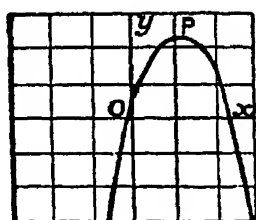


FIG. 69.

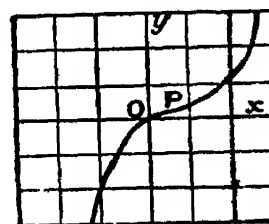


FIG. 70.

(2) Show that  $y = 1 + 8x - 2x^2$ , has a maximum value,  $P$  (Fig. 69), for  $x = 2$ . Plot the original equation as in Fig. 69.

(3) Show that  $y$  has neither a maximum nor a minimum when  $y = 2 + (x - 1)^3$ . Here  $dy/dx = 3(x - 1)^2 = 0$ ;  $\therefore x = 1$ . But  $x = 1$  does not make  $y$  a maximum nor a minimum. If  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 2$ ; if  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 1$ ; if  $x = 2$ ,  $y = 3$ , the graph is shown in Fig. 70. The critical point is at  $P$ .

### § 59. Turning Points or Points of Inflexion.

Let us now return to the subject of § 58. The fact that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0; \text{ or, } \frac{dy}{dx} = \infty,$$

is not a *sufficient* condition to establish the existence of maximum and minimum values of a function, although it is a rough practical test. Some of the values thus obtained do not necessarily make the function a maximum or a minimum, since a variable may become zero or infinite without changing its sign. This will be obvious from a simple inspection of Fig. 71, where

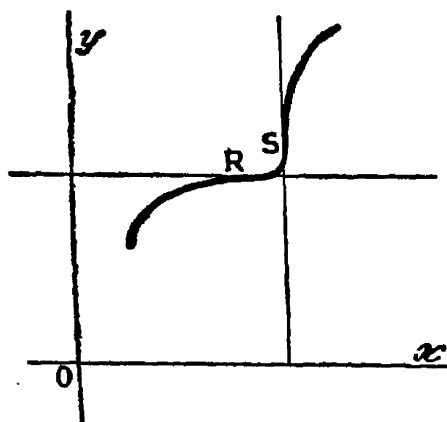


FIG. 71.—Points of Inflexion.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \text{ at } R; \text{ and, } \frac{dy}{dx} = \infty \text{ at } S.$$

Yet neither maximum nor minimum values of the function exist. A further test is therefore required in order to decide whether individual

values of  $x$  correspond to maximum or minimum values of the function. This is all the more essential in practical work where the function, not the curve, is to be operated upon.

By reference to Fig. 71 it will be noticed that the tangent crosses the curve at the points  $R$  and  $S$ . Such a point is called a **turning point or point of inflexion**. You will get a point of inflexion by plotting  $y = x^3$ . The point of inflexion marks the spot where the curve passes from a convex to a concave, or from a concave to a convex configuration with regard to one of the co-ordinate axes. The terms concave and convex have here their ordinary meaning.

### § 60. How to Find whether a Curve is Concave or Convex.

Referring to Fig. 72, along the concave part from  $A$  to  $P$ , the numerical value of  $\tan \alpha$ , regularly decreases to zero. At  $P$  the highest point of the curve  $\tan \alpha = 0$ ; from this point to  $B$  the tangent to the angle continually decreases. You will see this better if you take numbers. Let  $\alpha_1 = 45^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_2 = 135^\circ$ ;  $\therefore \tan \alpha_1 = +1$ , and  $\tan \alpha_2 = -1$ . Hence as you pass along the curve from  $A$  to  $P$  to  $B$ , the numerical value of the tangent of the curve ranges from

+ 1, to 0, to - 1.

The differential coefficient, or rate of change of  $\tan \alpha$  with respect to  $x$  for the concave curve  $APB$  continually decreases. Hence  $d(\tan \alpha)/dx$  is negative, or

$$\frac{d(\tan \alpha)}{dx} = \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \text{negative value} = < 0. \quad (1)$$

If a function,  $y = f(x)$ , increases with increasing values of  $x$ ,  $dy/dx$  is positive; while if the function,  $y = f(x)$ , decreases with increasing values of  $x$ ,  $dy/dx$  is negative.

Along the convex part of the curve  $BQC$ ,  $\tan \alpha$  regularly increases in value. Let us take numbers. Suppose  $\alpha_2 = 135^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_3 = 45^\circ$ , then  $\tan \alpha_2 = -1$  and  $\tan \alpha_3 = +1$ . Hence as you pass along the curve from  $B$  to  $Q$ ,  $\tan \alpha$  increases in value from - 1 to 0. At the point  $Q$ ,  $\tan \alpha = 0$ , and from  $Q$  to  $C$ ,  $\tan \alpha$  continually

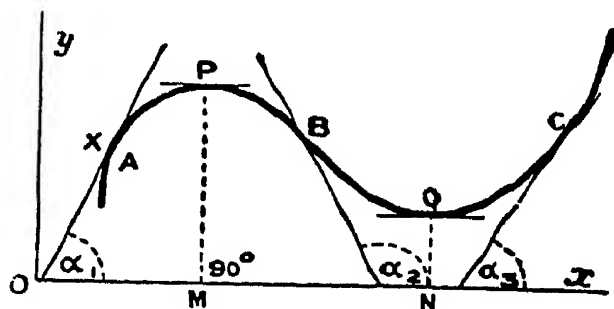


FIG. 72.—Convexity and Concavity.

increases in value from 0 to +1. The differential coefficient of  $\tan \alpha$  with respect to the convex curve  $BQC$  is, therefore, positive, or

$$\frac{d(\tan \alpha)}{dx} = \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \text{positive value} = > 0. \quad (2)$$

Hence a curve is concave or convex upwards, according as the second differential coefficient is negative or positive.

I have assumed that the curve is on the positive side of the  $x$ -axis; when the curve lies on the negative side, assume the  $x$ -axis to be displaced parallel with itself until the above condition is attained. A more general rule, which evades the above limitation, is proved in the regular text-books. The proof is of little importance for our purpose. The rule is to the effect that "a curve is concave or convex upwards according as the product of the ordinate of the curve and the second differential coefficient, i.e., according as  $y d^2y/dx^2$  is positive or negative".

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the curves  $y = \log x$  and  $y = x \log x$  are respectively concave and convex towards the  $x$ -axis. Hint.  $d^2y/dx^2 = -x^{-2}$  for the former; and  $+x^{-1}$  for the latter. The former is therefore concave, the latter convex, as shown in Fig. 73. Note: If you plot  $y = \log x$  on a larger scale you will see that for every positive value of  $x$  there is one and only one value of  $y$ ; the value of  $y$  will be positive or negative according as  $x$  is greater or less than unity. When  $x=1$ ,  $y=0$ ; when  $x=0$ ,  $y=-\infty$ ; when  $x=+\infty$ ,  $y=+\infty$ . There is no logarithmic function for negative values of  $x$ .

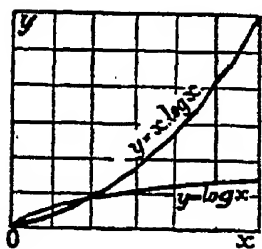


FIG. 73.

(2) Show that the parabola,  $y^2 = 4ax$ , is concave upwards below the  $x$ -axis (where  $y$  is negative) and convex upwards above the  $x$ -axis.

## § 61. How to Find Turning Points or Points of Inflexion.

From the above principles it is clearly necessary, in order to locate a point of inflexion, to find a value of  $x$ , for which  $\tan \alpha$  assumes a maximum or a minimum value. But

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{dy}{dx}; \therefore \frac{d(\tan \alpha)}{dx} = \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0. \quad (3)$$

Hence the rule: In order to find a point of inflexion we must equate the second differential coefficient of the function to zero; find the value of  $x$  which satisfies these conditions; and test if the second differential coefficient does really change sign by substituting in the second differential coefficient a value of  $x$  a little greater and one a little less than the critical value. If there is no change of sign we are not dealing with a point of inflexion.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the curve  $y = a + (x - b)^3$  has a point of inflexion at the point  $y = a$ ,  $x = b$ . Differentiating twice we get  $d^2y/dx^2 = 6(x - b)$ . Equating this to zero we get  $x = b$ ; by substituting  $x = b$  in the original equation, we get  $y = a$ . When  $x = b - 1$  the second differential coefficient is negative, when  $x = b + 1$  the second differential coefficient is positive. Hence there is an inflexion at the point  $(b, a)$ . See Fig. 70, page 158.

(2) For the special case of the harmonic curve, Fig. 52, page 136,  $y = \sin x$ ;  $\therefore d^2y/dx^2 = -\sin x = -y$ , that is to say, at the point of inflexion the ordinate  $y$  changes sign. This occurs when the curve crosses the  $x$ -axis, and there are an infinite number of points of inflexion for which  $y = 0$ .

(3) Show that the probability curve,  $y = ke^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$ , has a point of inflexion for  $x = \pm \sqrt{1/h}$ . (Fig. 168, page 513.)

(4) Show that Roche's vapour pressure curve  $p = ab\theta^{1/(m+n\theta)}$  has a point of inflexion when  $\theta = m(\log b - 2n)/2n^2$ ; and  $p = ab^{(2\log b - 2n)/n\log b}$ . See Ex. (6), page 67; and Fig. 88, page 172.

## § 62. Six Problems in Maxima and Minima.

It is first requisite, in solving problems in maxima and minima, to express the relation between the variables in the form of an algebraic equation, and then to proceed as directed on page 157. In the majority of cases occurring in practice, it only requires a little common-sense reasoning on the nature of the problem, to determine whether a particular value of  $x$  corresponds with a maximum or a minimum. The very nature of the problem generally tells us whether we are dealing with a maximum or a minimum, so that we may frequently dispense with the labour of investigating the sign of the second derivative.

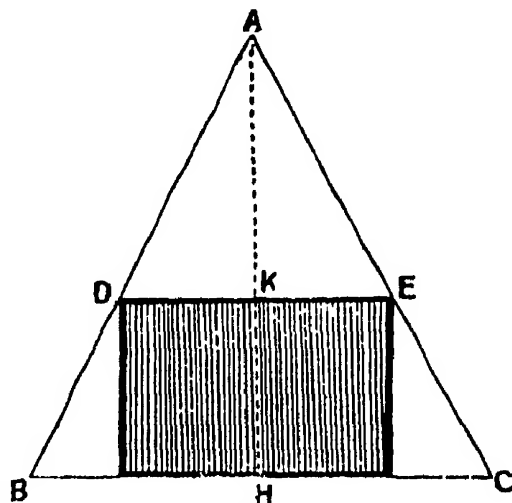


FIG. 74.

I. Divide a line into any two parts such that the rectangle having these two parts as adjoining sides may have the greatest possible area. If  $a$  be the length of the line,  $x$  the length of one part,  $a - x$  will be the length of the other part; and, in consequence, the area of the rectangle will be

$$y = (a - x)x.$$

Differentiate, and

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = a - 2x.$$

L

Equate to zero, and,  $x = \frac{1}{2}a$ ; that is to say, the line  $a$  must be divided into two equal parts, and the greatest possible rectangle is a square.

II. Find the greatest possible rectangle that can be inscribed in a given triangle. In Fig. 74, let  $b$  denote the length of the base of the triangle  $ABC$ ,  $h$  its altitude,  $x$  the altitude of the inscribed rectangle. We must first find the relation between the area of the rectangle and of the triangle. By similar triangles, page 603,

$$AH:AK = BC:DE; h:h-x = b:DE,$$

but the area of the rectangle is obviously  $y = DE \times KH$ , and

$$DE = \frac{b}{h}(h-x), KH = x; \therefore y = \frac{b}{h}(hx - x^2).$$

It is the rule, when seeking maxima and minima, to simplify the process by omitting the constant factors, since, whatever makes the variable  $hx - x^2$  a maximum will also make  $b(hx - x^2)/h$  a maximum.<sup>1</sup> Now differentiate the expression obtained above for the area of the rectangle neglecting  $b/h$ , and equate the result to zero, in this way we obtain

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = h - 2x = 0; \text{ or } x = \frac{h}{2}.$$

That is to say, the height of the rectangle must be half the altitude of the triangle.

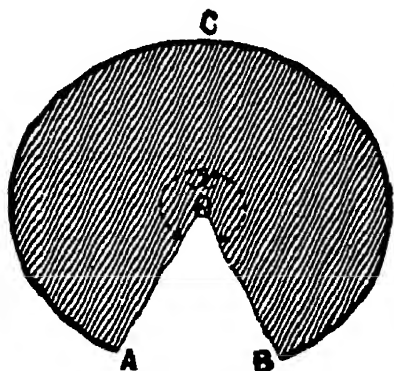


FIG. 75.

III. To cut a sector from a circular sheet of metal so that the remainder can be formed into a conical-shaped vessel of maximum capacity. Let  $ACB$  (Fig. 75) be a circular plate of radius,  $r$ , it is required to cut out a portion  $AOB$  such that the conical vessel formed by joining  $OA$  and  $OB$  together may hold the greatest possible amount of fluid.

Let  $x$  denote the angle remaining after the sector  $AOB$  has been removed. We must first find a relation between  $x$  and the volume,  $v$ , of the cone.<sup>2</sup>

The length of the arc  $ACB$  is  $\frac{1}{180}x\pi r$ , (3), page 603, and when

<sup>1</sup> This is easily proved, for let  $y = cf(x)$ , where  $c$  has any arbitrary constant value. For a maximum or minimum value  $dy/dx = cf'(x) = 0$ , and this can only occur where  $f'(x) = 0$ .

<sup>2</sup> Mensuration formulæ (1), (3), (4), (27), § 191, page 603; and (1), page 606, will be required for this problem.

the plate is folded into a cone, this is also the length of the perimeter of the circular base of the cone. Let  $R$  denote the radius of the circular base. The perimeter of the base is therefore equal to  $2\pi R$ . Hence,

$$2\pi R = \frac{x}{\pi}\pi r; \text{ or, } R = \frac{xr}{2\pi}. \quad (1)$$

If  $h$  is the height of the vertical cone,

$$r^2 = R^2 + h^2; \text{ or, } h = \sqrt{r^2 - R^2}. \quad (2)$$

The volume of the cone is therefore

$$v = \frac{\pi}{3}R^2h = \frac{\pi}{3}\left(\frac{xr}{2\pi}\right)^2\sqrt{r^2 - \left(\frac{xr}{2\pi}\right)^2} \quad (3)$$

Rejecting the constants,  $v$  will be a maximum when  $x^2\sqrt{4\pi^2 - x^2}$ , or when  $x^4(4\pi^2 - x^2)$  is a maximum. That is, when

$$\frac{d}{dx}\{x^4(4\pi^2 - x^2)\} = (16\pi^2 - 6x^2)x^3 = 0.$$

If  $x=0$ , we have a vertical line corresponding with a cone of minimum volume. Hence, if  $x$  is not zero, we must have

$$16\pi^2 - 6x^2 = 0; \text{ or, } x = 2\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \times 180^\circ = 294^\circ.$$

Hence the angle of the removed sector is about  $360^\circ - 294^\circ = 66^\circ$ . The application to funnels is obvious. Of course the sides of the chemists' funnel has a special slope for other reasons.

IV. *At what height should a light be placed above my writing table in order that a small portion of the surface of the table, at a given horizontal distance away from the foot of the perpendicular dropped from the light on to the table, may receive the greatest illumination possible?* Let  $S$  (Fig. 76) be the source of illumination whose distance,  $x$ , from the table is to be determined in such a way that  $B$  may receive the greatest illumination. Let  $AB = a$ , and  $\alpha$  the angle made by the incident rays  $SB = r$  on the surface  $B$ .

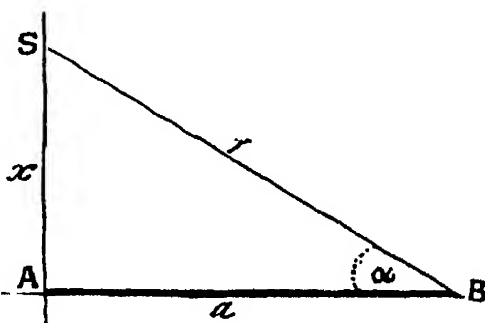


FIG. 76.

It is known that the intensity of illumination,  $y$ , varies inversely as the square of the distance of  $SB$ , and directly as the sine of the angle of incidence. Since, by Pythagoras' theorem (Euclid, i., 47),  $r^2 = a^2 + x^2$ ; and  $\sin \alpha = x/r$ , in order that the illumination may be a maximum,

$$y = \frac{\sin \alpha}{r^2} = \frac{x}{r^3} = \frac{x}{r^2 \sqrt{a^2 + x^2}} = \frac{x}{(a^2 + x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

L \*



must be a maximum. By differentiation, we get

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{a^2 - 2x^2}{(a^2 + x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} = 0; \therefore x = a\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

The interpretation is obvious. The height of the light must be 0.707 times the horizontal distance of the writing table from the "foot"  $A$ . Negative and imaginary roots have no meaning in this problem.

V. To arrange a number of voltaic cells to furnish a maximum current against a known external resistance. Let the electromotive force of each cell be  $E$ , and its internal resistance  $r$ . Let  $R$  be the external resistance,  $n$  the total number of cells. Assume that  $x$  cells are arranged in series and  $n/x$  in parallel. The electromotive force of the battery is  $xE$ . Its internal resistance  $x^2r/n$ . The current  $C$ , according to the text-books on electricity, is given by the relation

$$C = \frac{xE}{R + \frac{r}{n}x^2}; \therefore \frac{dC}{dx} = \frac{\left(R - \frac{r}{n}x^2\right)E}{\left(E + \frac{r}{n}x^2\right)^2}.$$

Equate to zero, and simplify,  $R = rx^2/n$ , remains. This means that the battery must be so arranged that its internal resistance shall be as nearly as possible equal to the external resistance.

The theory of maxima and minima must not be applied blindly to physical problems. It is generally necessary to take other things into consideration. An arrangement that satisfies one set of conditions may not be suitable for another. For instance, while the above arrangement of cells will give the maximum current, it is by no means the most economical.

VI. To find the conditions which must subsist in order that light may travel from a given point in one medium to a given point in another medium in the shortest possible time. Let  $SP$  (Fig. 77) be a ray of light incident at  $P$  on the surface of separation of the media  $M$  and  $M'$ ; let  $PR$  be the refracted ray in the same plane as the incident

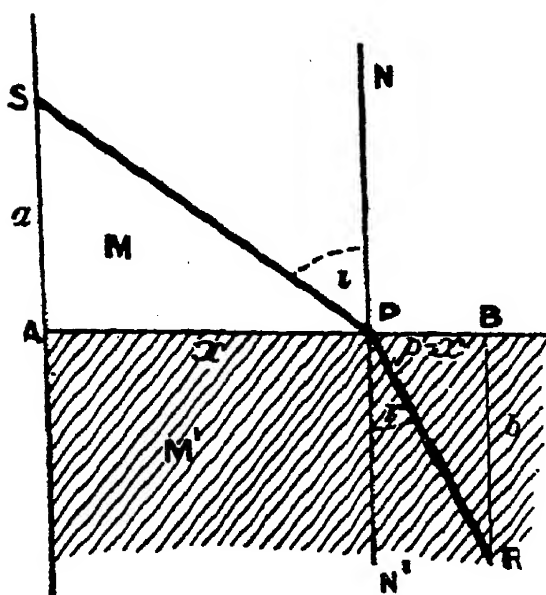


FIG. 77.

let  $PR$  be the refracted ray in the same plane as the incident

ray. If  $PN$  is normal (perpendicular) to the surface of incidence, then the angle  $NPS = i$ , is the angle of incidence; and the angle  $N'PR = r$ , is the angle of refraction. Drop perpendiculars from  $S$  and  $R$  on to  $A$  and  $B$ , so that  $SA = a$ ,  $RB = b$ . Now the light will travel from  $S$  to  $R$ , according to Fermat's principle, in the shortest possible time, with a uniform velocity different in the different media  $M$  and  $M'$ . The ray passes through the surface separating the two media at the point  $P$ , let  $AP = x$ ,  $BP = p - x$ . Let the velocity of propagation of the ray of light in the two media be respectively  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  units per second. The ray therefore travels from  $S$  to  $P$  in  $PS/V_1$  seconds, and from  $P$  to  $R$  in  $RP/V_2$  seconds, and the total time,  $t$ , occupied in transit from  $S$  to  $R$  is the sum

$$t = \frac{PS}{V_1} + \frac{RP}{V_2}. \quad (1)$$

From the triangles  $SAP$  and  $PBR$ , as indicated in (1), page 603, it follows that  $PS = \sqrt{a^2 + x^2}$ ; and  $RP = \sqrt{b^2 + (p - x)^2}$ . Substituting these values in (1), and differentiating in the usual way, we get

$$\frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{x}{V_1 \sqrt{a^2 + x^2}} - \frac{p - x}{V_2 \sqrt{b^2 + (p - x)^2}} = 0. \quad (2)$$

Consequently, by substituting for  $PS$ ,  $RP$ ,  $AP$ , and  $BP$  as above, we get from the preceding equation (2), solved for  $V_1/V_2$ ,

$$\frac{\sin i}{\sin r} = \frac{\frac{AP}{PS}}{\frac{BP}{RP}} = \frac{\frac{x}{\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}}}{\frac{p - x}{\sqrt{b^2 + (p - x)^2}}} = \frac{V_1}{V_2}.$$

This result, sometimes called Snell's law of refraction, shows that the sines of the angles of incidence and refraction must be proportional to the velocity of the light in the two given media in order that the light may pass from one point to the other in the shortest possible interval of time. Experiment justifies Fermat's guess. The ratio of the sines of the two angles, therefore, is constant for the same two media. The constant is usually denoted by the symbol  $\mu$ , and called the index of refraction.

EXAMPLES.—(1) The velocity of motion of a wave, of length  $\lambda$ , in deep water is  $V = \sqrt{(\lambda/a + a/\lambda)}$ ,  $a$  is a constant. Required the length of the wave when the velocity is a minimum. (N. Z. Univ. Exam. Papers.) Ansr.  $\lambda = a$ .

(2) The contact difference of potential,  $E$ , between two metals is a function of the temperature,  $\theta$ , such that  $E = a + b\theta + c\theta^2$ . How high

must the temperature of one of the metals be raised in order that the difference of potential may be a maximum or a minimum.  $a, b, c$  are constants. Ansr.  $\theta = -b/2c$ .

(3) Show that the greatest rectangle that can be inscribed in the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$  is a square. Hint. Draw a circle of radius  $r$ , Fig. 78. Let the sides of the rectangle be  $2x$  and  $2y$  respectively;  $\therefore$  area  $= 4xy$ ,  $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$ . Solve for  $y$ , and substitute in the former equation. Differentiate, etc., and then show that both  $x$  and  $y$  are equal to  $r\sqrt{2}$ , etc.

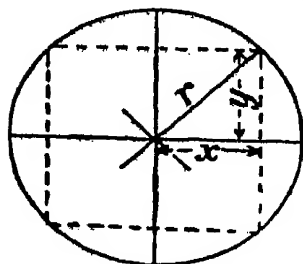


FIG. 78.

(4) If  $v_0$  be the volume of water at  $0^\circ$  C.,  $v$  the volume at  $\theta^\circ$  C., then, according to Hällstrom's formula, for temperatures between  $0^\circ$  and  $30^\circ$ ,

$$v = v_0(1 - 0.000057,577\theta + 0.000007,5601\theta^2 - 0.000000,03509\theta^3).$$

Show that the volume is least and the density greatest when  $\theta = 3.92$ . The graph is shown in Fig. 79. In the working of this example, it will be found simplest to use  $a, b, c \dots$  for the numerical coefficients, differentiate, etc., for the final result, restore the numerical values of  $a, b, c \dots$ , and simplify. Probably the reader has already done this.

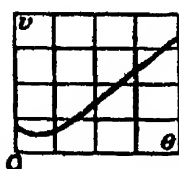


FIG. 79.

(5) Later on I shall want the student to show that the expression  $\sqrt{(q^2 - n^2)^2 + 4f^2n^2}$  is a minimum when  $n^2 = q^2 - 2f^2$ .

(6) An electric current flowing round a coil of radius  $r$  exerts a force  $F$  on a small magnet whose axis is at some point on a line drawn through the centre and perpendicular to the plane of the coil. If  $x$  is the distance of the magnet from the plane of the coil,  $F = x/(r^2 + x^2)^{5/2}$ . Show that the force is a maximum when  $x = \frac{1}{2}r$ .

(7) Draw an ellipse whose area for a given perimeter shall be a maximum. Hint. Although the perimeter of an ellipse can only be represented with perfect accuracy by an infinite series, yet for all practical purposes the perimeter may be taken to be  $\pi(x + y)$  where  $x$  and  $y$  are the semi-major and semi-minor axes. The area of the ellipse is  $s = \pi xy$ . Since the perimeter is to be constant,  $a = \pi(x + y)$  or  $y = a/\pi - x$ . Substitute this value of  $y$  in the former expression and  $s = ax - \pi x^2$ . Hence,  $x = a/2\pi$  when  $s$  is a maximum. Substitute this value of  $x$  in  $y = a/\pi - x$ , and  $y = a/2\pi$ , that is to say,  $x = y = a/2\pi$ , or of all ellipses the circle has the greatest area. Boys' leaden water-pipes designed not to burst at freezing temperatures, are based on this principle. The cross section of the pipe is elliptical. If the contained water freezes, the resulting expansion makes the tube tend to become circular in cross section. The increased capacity allows the ice to have more room without putting a strain on the pipe.

(8) If  $A, B$  be two sources of heat, find the position of a point  $O$  on the line  $AB = a$ , such that it is heated the least possible. Assume that the intensity of the heat rays is proportional to the square of the distance from the source of heat. Let  $AO = x$ ,  $BO = a - x$ . The intensity of each source of heat at unit distance away is  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . The total intensity of the heat which reaches  $O$  is  $I = \alpha x^{-2} + \beta(a - x)^{-2}$ . Find  $dI/dx$ .  $I$  is a minimum when  $x = \sqrt[3]{\alpha} \cdot a / (\sqrt[3]{\alpha} + \sqrt[3]{\beta})$ .

(9) The weight,  $W$  (lbs. per sec.), of flue gas passing up a chimney at different temperatures  $T$ , is represented by  $W = A(T - T_0)(1 + \alpha T)^{-2}$ , where  $A$  is a constant,  $T$  the absolute temperature of the hot gases passing within the chimney,  $T_0$  the temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) of the outside air,  $\alpha = \frac{1}{273}$  the coefficient of expansion of the gas. Hence show that the greatest amount of gas will pass up the chimney—the “best draught” will occur—when the temperature of the “flue gases” is nearly  $333^{\circ}\text{C}$ . and the temperature of the atmosphere is  $15^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

(10) If  $VC$  denotes the “input” of a continuous current dynamo;  $\sigma$  the fixed losses due to iron, friction, excitation, etc.;  $\tau C^2$ , the variable losses;  $C$ , the current, then the efficiency,  $E$ , is given by  $E = 1 - (\sigma + \tau C^2)/VC$ . Show that the efficiency will be a minimum when  $\sigma = \tau C^2$ . Hint. Find  $dE/dC$ , etc.

(11) Show that  $x^{\frac{1}{x}}$  is a maximum when  $x = e$ . Hint.  $dy/dx = x^{\frac{1}{x}}(1 - \log x)/x^2$ ;  $\therefore \log x = 1$ , etc.

(12) A submarine telegraph cable consists of a circular core surrounded by a concentric circular covering. The speed of signalling through this varies as  $1 : x^2 \log x^{-1}$ , where  $x$  denotes the ratio of the radius of the core to that of the covering. Show that the fastest signalling can be made when this ratio is  $0.606 \dots$  Hint.  $1 : \sqrt{e} = 0.606$ .

(13) The velocity equations for chemical reactions in which the normal course is disturbed by autocatalysis are, for reactions of the first order,  $dx/dt = kx(a - x)$ ; or,  $dx/dt = k(b + x)(a - x)$ . Hence show that the velocity of the reaction will be greatest when  $x = \frac{1}{2}a$  for the former reaction, and  $x = \frac{1}{2}(a - b)$  for the latter.

(14) A privateer has to pass between two lights,  $A$  and  $B$ , on opposite headlands. The intensity of each light is known and also the distance between them. At what point must the privateer cross the line joining the lights so as to be illuminated as little as possible. Given the intensity of the light at any point is equal to its illuminating power divided by the square of the distance of the point from the source of light. Let  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  respectively denote the illuminating power of each source of light. Let  $a$  denote the distance from  $A$  to  $B$ . Let  $x$  denote the distance from  $A$  to the point on  $AB$  where the intensity of illumination is least; hence the ship must be illuminated  $p_1/x^2 + p_2/(a - x)^2$ . This function will be a minimum when  $(p_1/p_2)^{\frac{1}{2}} = x/(a - x)$ ;  $\therefore x = ap_1^{\frac{1}{2}}(p_1^{\frac{1}{2}} + p_2^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1}$ .

(15) Assuming that the cost of driving a steamer through the water varies as the cube of her speed, show that her most economical speed through the water against a current running  $V$  miles per hour is  $\frac{2}{3}V$ . Let  $x$  denote the speed of the ship in still water,  $x - V$  will then denote the speed against the current. But the distance traversed is equal to the velocity multiplied by the time. Hence, the time taken to travel  $s$  miles will be  $s/(x - V)$ . The cost in fuel per hour is  $ax^3$ , where  $a$  is the constant of proportion. Hence: Total cost =  $asx^3/(x - V)$ . Hence,  $x^3/(x - V)$  is to be a minimum. Differentiate as usual, and we get  $x = \frac{2}{3}V$ . The captain of a river steamer must be always applying this fact subconsciously.

(16) The stiffness of a rectangular beam of any given material is proportional to its breadth, and to the cube of its depth, find the stiffest beam that

can be cut from a circular tree 12 in. in diameter. Let  $x$  denote the breadth of the beam, and  $y$  its depth; obviously,  $12^2 = x^2 + y^2$ . Hence, the depth of the beam is  $\sqrt{12^2 - x^2}$ ;  $\therefore$  stiffness is proportional to  $x(12^2 - x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}$ . This is a maximum when  $x = 6$ . Hence the required depth,  $y$ , must be  $6\sqrt{3}$ .

(17) Suppose that the total waste,  $y$ , due to heat, depreciation, etc., which occurs in an electric conductor with a resistance  $R$  ohms per mile with an electric current,  $C$ , in ampères is  $C^2R + (17)^2/R$ , find the relation between  $C$  and  $R$  in order that the waste may be a minimum. Ansr.  $CR = 17$ , which is known as Lord Kelvin's rule. Hint. Find  $dy/dR$ , assuming that  $C$  is constant. Given the approximation formula, resistance of conductor of cross sectional area  $a$  is  $R = 0.04/a$ ;  $\therefore C = 425a$ , or, for a minimum cost, the current must be 425 ampères per square inch of cross sectional area of conductor.

### § 63. Singular Points.

The following table embodies the relations we have so far deduced between the shape of the curve  $y = f(x)$  and the first four differential coefficients. Some relations have been "brought forward" from a later chapter. The symbol " $\dots$ " means that the value of the corresponding derivative does not affect the result:—

TABLE I.—SINGULAR VALUES OF FUNCTIONS.

Property of Curve.	$\frac{dy}{dt}$	$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2}$	$\frac{d^3y}{dt^3}$	$\frac{d^4y}{dt^4}$
Tangent parallel to $x$ -axis	0	..	..	..
Tangent parallel to $y$ -axis	$\infty$	..	..	..
Maximum . . . {	0	—	..	..
	0	0	0	—
Minimum . . . {	0	+	..	..
	0	0	0	+
Point of inflexion . .	..	0	not zero	..
Convex downwards . .	not zero	+	..	..
Concave downwards . .	not zero	—	..	..

It is perhaps necessary to add a few more remarks so as to give the beginner an inkling of the vastness of the subject we are about to leave behind. P. Frost's *An Elementary Treatise on Curve Tracing*, London, 1872, is the text-book on this subject. Before you proceed to the actual plotting, look out for symmetrical axes; maxima and minima ordinates; points of inflexion; and asymptotes. Does the curve cut the axes at any points? There may be other singular points besides points of inflexion, and maxima and minima.

Two or more branches of the same curve will intersect or cross one another, as shown at  $O$ , Fig. 80, when the first differential coefficient has two or more real unequal values, and  $y$  has at least two equal values. The number of intersecting branches is denoted by the number of real roots of the first differential coefficient. The point of intersection is called a **multiple point**. If two branches of the curve cross each other the point is called a **node**; Cayley calls it a **crunode**.

EXAMPLES.—(1) In the lemniscate curve, familiar to students of crystallography,  $y^2 = a^2x^2 - x^4$ ;  $y = \pm x\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$ .  $y$  has two values, of opposite sign, for every value of  $x$  between  $\pm a$ ; the curve is therefore symmetrical with respect to the  $x$ -axis. When  $x = \pm a$ , these two values of  $y$  become zero; but these are not multiple points since the curve does not extend beyond these limits, and therefore cannot satisfy the above conditions. When  $x = 0$ , the two values of  $y$  become zero, and since there are two values of  $y$ , one on each side of the point  $x = 0, y = 0$ , this is a multiple point. Since  $dy/dx = \pm (a^2 - 2x^2)(a^2 - x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  becomes  $\pm a$  when  $x = 0$ , it follows that there are two tangents to the curve at this point, such that  $\tan \alpha = \pm a$ . In order to plot the curve, give  $a$  some numerical value, say 5. The graph is shown in Fig. 80. The node is at  $O$ . Notice that if the numerical value of  $x$  is greater than that of  $a$  you have to extract the square root of a negative quantity. This cannot be done because we do not know a number which will give a negative quantity when multiplied by itself. Mathematicians have agreed to call the square root of a negative number an “imaginary number” in contrast with a “real number”.

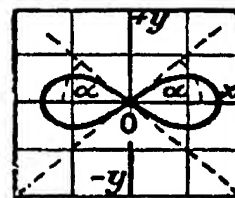


FIG. 80.

(2) The curve  $y = b \pm (x - a)\sqrt{x}$  has a node at the point  $P(a, b)$ . For every value of  $x$  there are two unequal values of  $y$ , but when  $x = 0$ , the two values of  $y = b$ , and when  $x = a$ , also,  $y = b$ . There are two real values of  $y$  on each side of the point  $P(a, b)$ ; this can be determined by substituting  $a + h$ , and  $a - h$  successively in place of  $x$ .  $dy/dx = \pm \frac{1}{2}(3x - a)x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . For  $x = a$ ,  $dy/dx = \pm \sqrt{a}$ . Hence the tangents to the curve at the node make angles with the  $x$ -axis whose tangents are  $\pm \sqrt{a}$ . The point  $x = 0, y = b$  is not a multiple point because when  $x$  is negative,  $y$  is imaginary. This shows that the curve does not go to the left of the  $y$ -axis. The singular point is shown in Fig. 81.

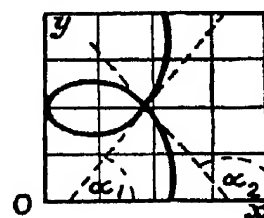


FIG. 81.

A **cusp** or **spinode** (Cayley) is a point where two branches of a curve have a common tangent and stop at that point, as shown in Figs. 82 and 83. The branches terminate at the point of contact and do not pass beyond. Hence the values of  $y$  on one side of the point are real; and on the other imaginary.

EXAMPLES.—(1) In the cissoid curve,  $y = b \pm \sqrt{(x^2 - a^2)^3}$ ;  $y$  is imaginary for all values of  $x$  between  $\pm a$ . When  $x = \pm a$ ,  $y$  has one value; for any point to the right of  $x = +a$ , or to the left of  $x = -a$ ,  $y$  has two values;  $dy/dx = \pm 3x(x^2 - a^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  vanishes when  $x = a$ . The two branches of the curve have therefore a common tangent parallel to the  $x$ -axis and there is a cusp. The cusp is said to be of the first species, or a ceratoid cusp. We now find that there are two real and equal values for the second differential coefficient,

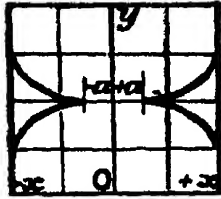


FIG. 82.—Single Cusps  
(First Species).

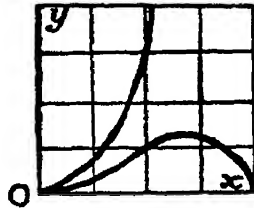


FIG. 83.—Single Cusp  
(Second Species).

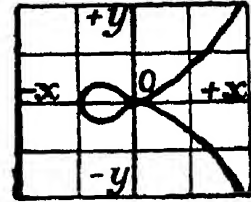


FIG. 84.

namely,  $d^2y/dx^2 = \pm 3(2x^2 - a^2)(x^2 - a^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . The upper branch is convex towards the  $x$ -axis; and the lower branch is concave towards the  $x$ -axis, as shown in Fig. 82.

(2) The second differential coefficient of the curve  $(y - x^2)^2 = x^5$  has two different values of the same sign. The cusp is then said to be a cusp of the second species, or a rhamphoid cusp. The lower curve also has a maximum when  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ . The general form of the curve is shown in Fig. 83.

The cusps which have just been described are called **single cusps** in contradistinction to **double cusps** or **points of osculation** in which the curves extend to both sides of the point of contact. These are what Cayley calls **tacnodes**. The differential coefficient has now two or more equal roots and  $y$  has at least two equal values. The different branches of the curve have a common tangent.

To distinguish cusps from points of osculation: compare the ordinate of the curve for that point with the ordinates of the curve on each side. For a cusp,  $y$  and the first differential coefficient have only one real value.

EXAMPLES.—(1) The curve  $y^2 = x^4(x + 5)$ ; or what is the same thing  $y = \pm x^2\sqrt{x+5}$ , has a tacnode at the origin, as shown in Fig. 84.  $dy/dx = \pm \frac{1}{2}x(x+4)(x+5)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , which becomes zero when  $x=0$ . The two branches of the curve are tangent to one another at this point when  $x = -5$ ,  $dy/dx = \infty$  and  $y=0$ . The tangent cuts the axis at right angles at the point  $x = -5$ , and when  $x$  is less than 5,  $y$  is imaginary. In Fig. 82, each cusp at the tacnode is of the first species, but sometimes the cusps are of the second species, as shown in Fig. 85.

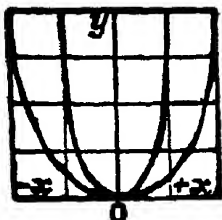


FIG. 85.



## § 63. FUNCTIONS WITH SINGULAR PROPERTIES.

(2) The curve  $y^2 - 6xy = x^3$  has another kind of tacnode shown. The cusp is of the first species on one side and of the second species on the other.

After the student has investigated the fifth chapter he may be able to show that when  $u=0$ ;  $(\partial u/\partial x)_y=0$ ; and  $(\partial u/\partial y)_x=0$ , then if

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right)_y \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right)_x - \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y}\right)^2 = \begin{cases} - & = \text{node.} \\ 0 & = \text{cusp.} \\ + & = \text{conjugate point.} \end{cases}$$

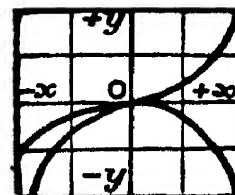


FIG. 86.

A **conjugate point or acnode** is one whose coordinates satisfy the equation of the curve and yet is itself quite detached from the curve. On each side of a conjugate point, real values of one coordinate give a pair of imaginary values of the other. On plotting the graph of  $y^2 = x^2(x - 2)$ , for example, it will be found that there is a point at the origin whose coordinates satisfy the equation of the curve, and yet the curve itself does not pass through the origin as shown in Fig. 87. There are no real values of  $y$  when  $x$  is less than 2 (except when  $x = 0, y = 0$ ) so that the curve does not go to the left of  $x = 2$ .

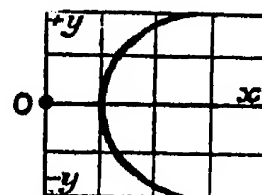


FIG. 87.

One branch of the curve  $y = x \log x$  suddenly stops at the origin (Fig. 73, page 160). This is said to be a *point d'arrêt* or a **terminal point**. When  $x = 0, y = 0$ ; when  $x$  is negative,  $y$  has no real value because negative numbers have no logarithms. Do not waste any time trying to show that  $y = 0$ , when  $x = 0$ . There is a difficulty which you will easily master later on.

Dela Roche has published a "proof" that the vapour pressure,  $p$ , of water at any temperature,  $\theta$ , is given by the expression

$$p = ab^{\frac{\theta}{m+n\theta}},$$

where  $a, b, m$ , and  $n$  are constants. August, Regnault, and Magnus found that the expression represented their experimental results fairly well. But Regnault (*Ann. Chim. Phys.*, [3], 11, 273, 1844) has pointed out that Roche's formula can only be regarded as an empirical interpolation formula pure and simple. The properties of this equation do not agree with the actual phenomena. See Ex. (4), page 161. The curve has a point of inflexion,  $E$ , Fig. 88, when  $\theta$  is equal to  $\frac{1}{2}m(\log b - 2n)n^{-2}$ . The curve has two branches,  $GAB$ , and  $DC$ . The portion  $AB$  alone applies to the observed relations between  $p$  and  $\theta$ . For this branch there is a terminal point,



$G$ , when  $\theta = -m/n$ , provided  $b$  is greater than unity. This curve

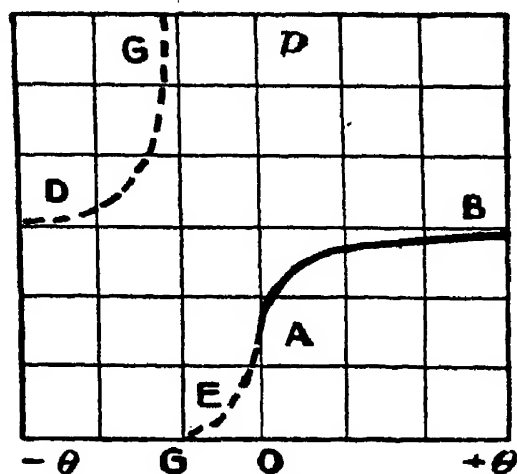


FIG. 88.

is also asymptotic to a line  $p = ab^{1/n}$  parallel to the  $\theta$ -axis. The other branch of the curve, I may notice *en passant*, is asymptotic to the same straight line and also to the straight line  $\theta = -m/n$  parallel to the  $p$ -axis. I have asked a class of students to *plot* the above equation and all missed the point of inflexion at  $E$ . As a matter of fact you should try to get as much information as you can by applying the above principles before actual plotting is attempted. You

will now see that if you know the formula of a curve, the calculus gives you a method of finding all the critical points without going to the trouble of plotting.

### § 64. $pv$ -Curves.

We have already had something to say about van der Waals' equation for the relation between the pressure,  $p$ , the volume,  $v$ , and the temperature,  $T^\circ$  abs., of a gas

$$\left(p + \frac{a}{v^2}\right)(v - b) = RT. \quad (1)$$

Now try and plot this equation for any gas from the published values of  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $R$ . For example, for ethylene  $a = 0.00786$ ,  $b = 0.0024$ ,  $R = 0.0037$ ; for carbon dioxide, van der Waals gives

$$\left(p + \frac{0.00874}{v^2}\right)(v - 0.0023) = 0.00369(273 + \theta), \quad (2)$$

where  $\theta$  denotes  $^\circ\text{C}$ . First fix the values for  $\theta$ , and calculate a set of corresponding values of  $p$  and  $v$ , thus, for  $0^\circ\text{C}$ ., when

$v = 0.1, 0.05, 0.025, 0.01, 0.0075, 0.005, 0.004, 0.003, \dots$ ;  
 $p = 9.4, 19.7, 30.3, 43.3, 37.9, 23.2, 45.8, 466.8, \dots$

Make the successive increments in  $v$  small when in the neighbourhood of a singular point. Plot these numbers on squared paper. Note the points of inflexion. Now do the same thing with  $\theta = 32^\circ\text{C}$ ., and  $\theta = 91^\circ\text{C}$ . The set of curves shown in the adjoining diagram (Fig. 89) were so obtained. In this way you

will get a better insight into the “inwardness” of van der Waals’ equation than if pages of descriptive matter were appended. Notice that the  $a/v^2$  term has no appreciable influence on the value of  $p$  when  $v$  becomes very great, and also that the difference between  $v$  and  $v - b$  is negligibly small, as  $v$  becomes very large. What does this signify? When the gas

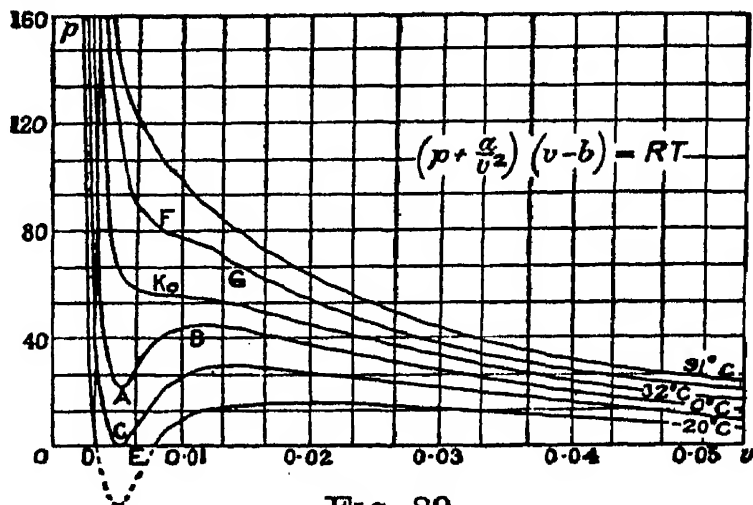


FIG. 89.

is rarefied, it will follow Boyle's law  $pv = \text{constant}$ . What would be the state of the gas when  $v = 0.0023$ ?

For convenience, solve (1) in terms of  $p$ , and treat  $RT$  as if it were one constant,

$$p = \frac{RT}{v - b} - \frac{a}{v^2}; \text{ or, } p = \frac{1}{v - b} \left( RT - \frac{a(v - b)}{v^2} \right). \quad (3)$$

This enables us to see that  $p$  will become zero when the fraction  $a(v - b)/v^2$  becomes equal to  $RT$ . This fraction attains the maximum value  $a/2^2b$ , when  $v$  becomes  $2b$ ; and obviously, when  $v = b$ , this fraction is zero. Hence,  $p$  will become zero when  $RT$  is equal to  $a/2^2b$ , and  $v = 2b$ . The curve for  $-20^\circ\text{C}$ . (Fig. 89) cuts the  $x$ -axis in two real points  $D$  and  $E$  when  $RT$  is less than  $a/2^2b$ . If  $RT = a/2^2b$ ,  $Ov$  is tangent to the curve at  $C$ .

Let us now differentiate (3) with respect to  $v$ ,

$$\frac{dp}{dv} = -\frac{RT}{(v - b)^2} + \frac{2a}{v^3}; \text{ or, } \frac{dp}{dv} = -\frac{1}{(v - b)^2} \left( RT - \frac{2a(v - b)^2}{v^3} \right). \quad (4)$$

If  $T$  be great enough,  $dp/dv$  will always be negative, that is to say, the curve, or rather its tangent, will slope from left to right downwards, like the hyperbola for  $91^\circ\text{C}$ . (Fig. 89). If  $v$  be small enough  $(v - b)^2$  also becomes very small, the curve will retain its negative slope because  $dp/dv$  will be negative; and when  $v = b$ ,  $(v - b)^2/v^3 = 0$ . When  $dp/dv$  becomes zero, the tangent to the curve is horizontal. This means that we may have maximum or minimum values of  $p$ . If  $T$  is small enough,  $dp/dv$  will have a positive value for certain values of  $v$ . The curve then slopes from left to right upwards, as at  $AB$  (Fig. 89).

You can now show that  $2a(v - b)^2/v^3$  has the maximum value

$2^3a/3^3b$ , when  $v = 3b$ ; and gradually approaches zero, as  $v$  becomes very great. If, therefore,  $RT$  is greater than  $2^3a/3^3b$ , the maximum value of  $2a(v - b)^2/v^3$ , then  $v$  will increase as  $p$  decreases. When  $RT$  is less than  $2^3a/3^3b$ ,  $p$  will decrease for small and large values of  $v$ , but it will increase in the neighbourhood of  $v = 3b$ . Consequently,  $p$  has a maximum or a minimum value for any value of  $v$  which makes  $2a(v - b)^2/v^3 = RT$ . This curve resembles that for  $0^\circ \text{C}$ . (Fig. 89), for all values of  $RT$  between  $a/2^2b$  and  $2^3a/2^3b$ ; when  $RT = 2^3a/3^3b$ , we have the point of inflexion  $K_0$  (Fig. 89).

Let us now see what we can learn from the second differential coefficient

$$\frac{d^2p}{dv^2} = \frac{2RT}{(v - b)^3} - \frac{6a}{v^4}; \text{ or, } \frac{d^2p}{dv^2} = \frac{2}{(v - b)^3} \left( RT - \frac{3a(v - b)^3}{v^4} \right). \quad (5)$$

The curve will have a point of inflexion when the fraction  $3a(v - b)^3/v^4 = RT$ . By the methods already described you can show that  $3a(v - b)^3/v^4$  will be zero when  $v = b$ ; and that it will attain the maximum value  $3^4a/4^4b$  when  $v = 4b$ . Every value of  $v$  which makes (5) zero will correspond with a point of inflexion.  $RT$  may be equal to, greater, or less than  $3^4a/4^4b$ . For all values of  $RT$  between  $2^3a/3^3b$  and  $3^4a/4^4b$ , there will be two points of inflexion, as shown at  $F$  and  $G$  (Fig. 89). When  $RT$  exceeds the value  $3^4a/4^4b$ , we have a branch of the rectangular hyperbola as shown for  $91^\circ$ .

If we take the experimental curves obtained by Andrews for the relation between the pressure,  $p$ , and volume,  $v$ , of carbon dioxide at different temperatures  $T, T_0, T_1, T_2, \dots$  we get a set of curves resembling Fig. 90. At any temperature  $T$  above the

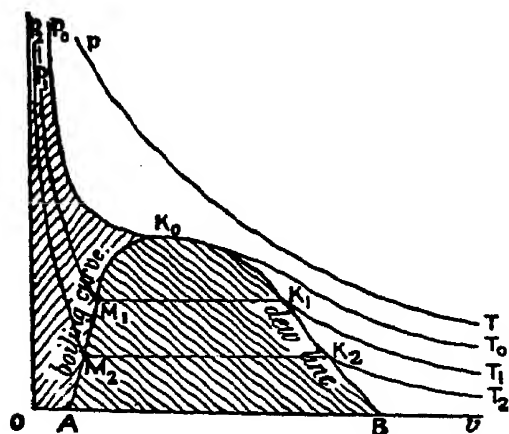


FIG. 90.

critical temperature, the relation between  $p$  and  $v$  is given by the curve  $pT$ . The gas will not liquefy. Below the critical temperature, say  $T_1$ , the volume decreases as the pressure increases, as shown by the curve  $T_1K_1$ ; at  $K_1$  the gas begins to liquefy and the pressure remains constant although the volume of the system diminishes from  $K_1$  to  $M_1$ . At  $M_1$  all the gas will have liquefied and the curve  $M_1p_1$  will represent the relation between the pressure and volume of the liquid. Similar curves  $T_2K_2M_2P_2, T_3K_3M_3P_3,$

.. are obtained at the different temperatures below the critical temperature  $T_0$ .

The lines  $K_0A$ ,  $K_0p_0$  and  $K_0B$  divide the plane of the paper into three regions. Every point to the left of  $AK_0p_0$  represents a homogeneous liquid; every point to the right of  $BK_0p_0$  represents a homogeneous gaseous phase; while every point in the region  $AK_0B$  represents a heterogeneous liquid-gas phase.

By gradually increasing the pressure, at any assigned temperature below  $T_0$ , the gas will begin to liquefy at some point along the line  $BK_0$ ; this is called the **dew curve**—*ligne de rosée*. If the pressure on a liquid whose state is represented by a point in the region  $OA K_0p$ , be gradually diminished, the substance will begin to assume the gaseous state at some point along the line  $K_0A$ . This is called the **boiling curve**—*ligne d'ébullition*. At  $K_0$  there is a tacnodal point or double cusp of the mixed species.

A remarkable phenomenon occurs when a mixture of two gases is treated in a similar manner. If a mixture of one volume of air and nine volumes of carbon dioxide be subjected to a gradually increasing pressure at about  $2^\circ \text{C}$ ., the gas begins to liquefy at a pressure of 72 atm.; and on increasing the pressure, still keeping the temperature constant, the liquid again passes into the gaseous state when the pressure reaches 149 atm.; and the liquid does not reappear again however great the pressure. If the pressure at which the liquid appears and disappears be plotted with the corresponding temperature, we get the dew curve  $BKC$ , shown in Fig. 91. For the same abscissa  $T_1$ , there are two ordinates,  $p_1$  and  $p_1'$ , between which the mixture is in a heterogeneous condition. At temperatures above  $T_0$ , no condensation will occur at all; below  $T_1$  only normal condensation takes place; at temperatures between  $T_1$  and  $T_0$  both normal and **retrograde condensation** will occur. The dotted line  $AC$  represents the boiling curve; above  $AC$  the system will be in the liquid state.  $K$  corresponds with the critical temperature of the mixture.  $C$  is called the **plait-point**.

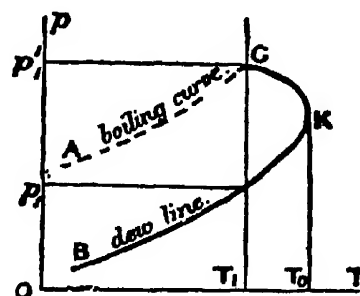


FIG. 91.

The phenomenon only occurs with mixtures of a certain composition. Above and below these limits the dew curves are quite normal. This is shown by the curves  $DC$  and  $OC_5$  in Fig. 92.  $C$  is the plait-point; and the line joining the plait-points  $C_2, C_3, C_4, \dots$

for different mixtures is called the **plait-point curve**. The dotted lines in the same diagram represent boiling curves. Note the gradual narrowing of the border curves and their transit into ordinary vapour pressure curves  $DC$  and  $OC_5$  at the two extremes. You must notice that we are really working in three dimensions. The variables are  $p$ ,  $v$  and  $T$ .

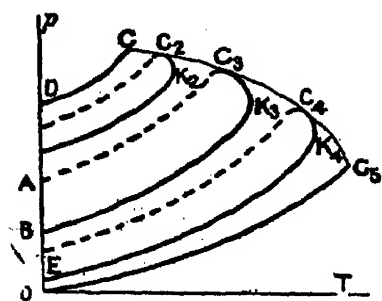


FIG. 92.

The plait-point curve appears to form a double cusp of the second species at a plait-point. There is some discussion as to whether, say,  $AC_3K_3B$  really forms a continuous curve line, so that at  $C_3$  the line  $CC_5$  is tangent to  $AC_3K_3B$ ; or separate lines each forming a spinode or cusp with the line  $CC_5$  at the point  $C_3$ . But enough has been said upon the nature of these curves to carry the student through this branch of mathematics in, say, J. D. van der Waals' *Binäre Gemische*, Leipzig, 1900.

**EXAMPLE.**—Show that the product  $pv$  for van der Waals' equation furnishes a minimum when

$$v = \frac{ab}{a - RbT} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{ab}{a - RbT}\right)^2 - \frac{ab^2}{a - RbT}}$$

**Hint.** Multiply the first of equations (3) through with  $v$ ; differentiate to get  $d(pv)/dv = 0$ , etc. The conclusion is in harmony with M. Amagat's experiments (*Ann. Chim. Phys.*, [5] 22, 353, 1881) on carbon dioxide, ethylene, nitrogen and methane. For hydrogen,  $a$ , in (3), is negligibly small, hence show that  $pv$  has no minimum.

## § 65. Imaginary Quantities.

We have just seen that no number is known which has a negative value when multiplied by itself. The square root of a negative quantity cannot, therefore, be a real number. In spite of this fact, the square roots of negative quantities frequently occur in mathematical investigations. Again, logarithms of negative numbers, inverse sines of quantities greater than unity, ..., cannot have real values. These, too, sometimes crop up in our work and we must know what to do with them.

Let  $\sqrt{-a^2}$  be such a quantity. If  $-a^2$  is the product of  $a^2$  and  $-1$ ,  $\pm \sqrt{-a^2}$  may be supposed to consist of two parts, *viz.*,  $\pm a$  and  $\sqrt{-1}$ . Mathematicians have agreed to call  $a$  the real part of  $\sqrt{-a^2}$  and  $\sqrt{-1}$ , the imaginary part. Following Gauss,

$\sqrt{-1}$  is written  $i$  (or  $\iota$ ). It is assumed that  $\sqrt{-1}$ , or  $i$  obeys all the rules of algebra.<sup>1</sup> Thus,

$$\sqrt{-1} \times \sqrt{-1} = -1; \sqrt{-4} = 2\sqrt{-1}; \sqrt{-a} \times \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{-ab}; i^4 = 1.$$

We know what the phrase "the point  $x, y$ " means. If one or both of  $x$  and  $y$  are imaginary, the point is said to be imaginary. An imaginary point has no geometrical or physical meaning. If an equation in  $x$  and  $y$  is affected with one or more imaginary coefficients, the non-existent graph is called an **imaginary curve**; while a similar equation in  $x, y$  and  $z$  will furnish an **imaginary surface**.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show  $i^{4n} = 1$ ;  $i^{4n+1} = i$ ;  $i^{4n+2} = -1$ ;  $i^{4n+3} = -i$ .

(2) Prove that  $a^2 + b^2 = (a + ib)(a - ib)$ .

(3) The quadratic  $x^2 + bx + c = 0$ , has imaginary roots only when  $b^2 - 4c$  is less than zero (5), page 354. If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are the roots of this equation, show that  $\alpha = -\frac{1}{2}b + \frac{1}{2}\iota\sqrt{b^2 - 4c}$ ; and  $\beta = -\frac{1}{2}b - \frac{1}{2}\iota\sqrt{b^2 - 4c}$ , satisfy the equation.

(4) Show  $(a + ib)(c + id) = (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)\iota$ .

(5) Show by multiplying numerator and denominator by  $c + id$  that  $\frac{a + ib}{c + id} = \frac{ac - bd}{c^2 + d^2} + \frac{bc + ad}{c^2 + d^2}\iota$ .

To illustrate the periodic nature of the symbol  $\iota$ , let us suppose that  $\iota$  represents the symbol of an operation which when repeated twice changes the sign of the subject of the operation, and when repeated four times restores the subject of the operation to its original form. For instance, if we twice operate on  $x$  with  $\iota$ , we get  $-x$ , or

$$(\sqrt{-1})^2x = \sqrt{-1} \times \sqrt{-1} \times x = -x; \text{ and } (\sqrt{-1})^4x = x,$$

and so on in cycles of four. If the imaginary quantities  $\iota x, -\iota x, \dots$  are plotted on the  $y$ -axis—axis of imaginaries—and the real quantities  $x, -x, \dots$  on the  $x$ -axis—axis of reals—the operation of  $\iota$  on  $x$  will rotate  $x$  through  $90^\circ$ , two operations will rotate  $x$  through  $180^\circ$ , three operations will rotate  $x$  through  $270^\circ$ , and four operations will carry  $x$  back to its original position.

<sup>1</sup> The so-called fundamental laws of algebra are: I. *The law of association*: The number of things in any group is independent of the order. II. *The commutative law*: (a) Addition. The number of things in any number of groups is independent of the order. (b) Multiplication. The product of two numbers is independent of the order. III. *The distributive law*: (a) Multiplication. The multiplier may be distributed over each term of the multiplicand, e.g.,  $m(a + b) = ma + mb$ . (b) Division.  $(a + b)/m = a/m + b/m$ . IV. *The index law*: (a) Multiplication.  $a^m a^n = a^{m+n}$ . (b) Division.  $a^m/a^n = a^{m-n}$ .

We shall see later on that  $2i \sin x = e^{ix} - e^{-ix}$ ; hence, if  $x = \pi$ ,  $\sin \pi = 0$ , and we have

$$e^{i\pi} - e^{-i\pi} = 0; \text{ or, } e^{i\pi} = e^{-i\pi},$$

meaning that the function  $e^{ix}$  has the same value whether  $x = \pi$ , or  $x = -\pi$ . From the last equation we get the remarkable connection between the two great incommensurables  $\pi$  and  $e$  discovered by Euler:

$$e^{2i\pi} = 1.$$

EXAMPLE.—Show  $x = x \times 1 = x \times e^{2in\pi} = e^{\log x + 2in\pi}$ . This means that the addition of  $2in\pi$  to the logarithm of any quantity has the effect of multiplying it by unity, and will not change its value. Every real quantity therefore, has one real logarithm and an infinite number of imaginary logarithms differing by  $2in\pi$ , where  $n$  is an integer.

Do not confuse irrational with imaginary quantities. Numbers like  $\sqrt{2}$ ,  $\sqrt[3]{5}$ , ... which cannot be obtained in the form of a whole number or finite fraction are said to be **irrational or surd numbers**. On the contrary,  $\sqrt{4}$ ,  $\sqrt[3]{27}$ , ... are rational numbers. Although we cannot get the absolutely correct value of an irrational number, we can get as close an approximation as ever we please; but we cannot even say that the imaginary quantity is entitled to be called a quantity.

## § 66. Curvature.

The curvature at any point of a plane curve is the rate at which the curve is bending. Of two curves  $AC$ ,  $AD$ , that has the greater curvature which departs the more rapidly from its tangent  $AB$

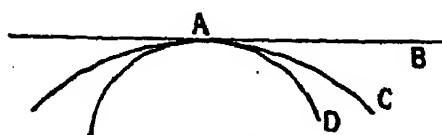


FIG. 93.

(Fig. 93). In passing from  $P$  (Fig. 94) to another neighbouring point  $P_1$  along any arc  $\delta s$  of the plane curve  $AB$ , the tangent at  $P$  turns through the angle  $\delta\alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  is the angle made by the intersection of the tangent at  $P$  with the  $t$ -axis. The curvature of the curve at the point  $P$  is defined as the limiting value of the ratio  $\delta\alpha/\delta s$  when  $P_1$  coincides with  $P$ . When the points  $P$  and  $P_1$  are not infinitely close together, this ratio may be called the mean or average curvature of the curve between  $A$  and  $B$ . We might now say that

$$R = \frac{d\alpha}{ds} = \text{Rate of bending of curve.} \quad (1)$$

I. *The curvature of the circumference of all circles of equal radius is the same at all points, and varies inversely as the radius.* This is established in the following way: Let  $AB$  (Fig. 94) be a part of a circle;  $Q$ , the centre;  $QP = QP_1 =$  radius  $= R$ . The two angles marked  $\delta\alpha$  are obviously equal. The angle  $PQP_1$  is measured in circular measure, page 606, by the ratio of the arc  $PP_1$  to the radius, i.e., the angle  $PQP_1 = \text{arc } PP_1/R$ ; or,  $\delta\alpha/\delta s = 1/R$ . The curvature of a circle is therefore the reciprocal of the radius, or, in symbols,

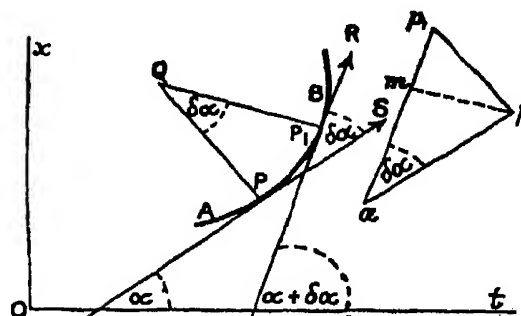


FIG. 94.

$$\frac{da}{ds} = \frac{1}{R}. \quad (2)$$

**EXAMPLE.**—An illustration from mechanics. If a particle moves with a variable velocity on the curve  $AB$  (Fig. 94) so that at the time  $t$ , the particle is at  $P$ , the particle would, by Newton's first law of motion, continue to move in the direction of the tangent  $PS$ , if it were not acted upon by a central force at  $Q$  which compels the particle to keep moving on the curvilinear path  $PP_1B$ . Let  $P_1$  be the position of the particle at the end of a short interval of time  $\delta t$ . The direction of motion of the particle at  $P_1$  may similarly be represented by the tangent  $P_1R$ . Let the length of the two straight lines  $ap$  and  $ap_1$  represent, in direction and magnitude, the respective velocities of the particle at  $P$  and at  $P_1$ . Join  $pp_1$ . The angle  $pap_1$  is evidently equal to the angle  $\delta\alpha$ . Since  $ap$  represents in direction and magnitude the velocity of the particle at  $P$ , and  $ap_1$ , the velocity of the particle at  $P_1$ ,  $pp_1$  will represent the increment in the velocity of the particle as it passes from  $P$  to  $P_1$ , for the parallelogram of velocities tells us that  $ap_1$  is the resultant of the two component velocities  $ap$  and  $pp_1$ , in direction and magnitude. The total acceleration of the particle in passing from  $P$  to  $P_1$  is therefore

$$\text{Total acceleration} = \frac{\text{Velocity gained}}{\text{Time occupied}} = \frac{pp_1}{dt}.$$

Now drop a perpendicular from the point  $p$  to meet  $ap_1$  at  $m$ . The infinitely small change of velocity  $pp_1$  may be regarded as the resultant of two changes  $pm$  and  $p_1m$ , or the acceleration  $pp_1/dt$  is the resultant of two accelerations  $pm/dt$  and  $mp_1/dt$  represented in direction and magnitude by the lines  $mp$  and  $p_1m$  respectively.  $pm/dt$  is called the normal acceleration.  $p_1m/dt$ , the tangential acceleration. If  $dt$  be made small enough, the direction of  $mp$  coincides with the direction of the normal  $QP$  to the tangent of the curve at the point  $P$ ; just as  $RP_1$  ultimately coincides with  $SP$  if  $\delta\alpha$  be taken small enough. But  $mp = ap \sin \delta\alpha$ . If  $\delta\alpha$  is small enough, we may write  $\sin \delta\alpha = \delta\alpha$  (11), page 602. Let  $V$  denote the velocity of the particle at the point  $P$ , then  $mp = Vd\alpha$ . From (2),  $\delta\alpha = \delta s/R$ ; and  $\delta s/\delta t = V$ , hence,



$$\text{Normal acceleration} = \frac{mv}{dt} = \frac{V}{R} \cdot \frac{ds}{dt} = \frac{V^2}{R}.$$

That is to say, when the particle moves on the curve, the acceleration in the direction of the normal is directly proportional to the square of the velocity, and inversely as the radius of curvature. Similarly the

$$\text{Tangential acceleration} = \frac{dV}{dt}.$$

If the particle moves in a straight line,  $R = \infty$ , and the normal acceleration is zero.

Just as a straight line touching a curve, may be regarded as a line drawn through two points of the curve infinitely close to each other (definition of tangent), so a circle in contact with a

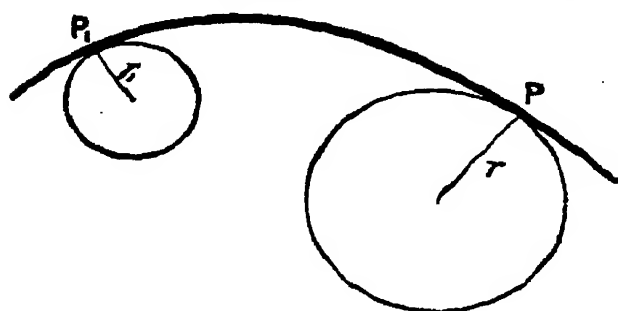


FIG. 95.

curve may be considered to pass through three consecutive points of the curve infinitely near each other. Such a circle is called an "osculatory circle" or a "circle of curvature". The osculatory circle of a curve has the same curvature as the curve itself at

the point of contact. The curvature of different parts of a curve may be compared by drawing osculatory circles through these points. If  $r$  be the radius of an osculatory circle at  $P$  (Fig. 95) and  $r_1$  that at  $P_1$ , then

$$\text{Curvature at } P : \text{Curvature at } P_1 = \frac{1}{r} : \frac{1}{r_1}. \quad (3)$$

In other words, the curvature at any two points on a curve varies inversely as the radius of the osculatory circles at these points. The radius of the osculatory circle at different points of a curve is called the "radius of curvature" at that point. The centre of the osculatory circle is the "centre of curvature".

II. To find the radius of curvature of a curve. Let the co-ordinates of the centre of the circle be  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $R$  the radius, then the equation of the circle is, page 98,

$$(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = R^2. \quad (4)$$

Differentiating this equation twice; and, dividing by 2, we get

$$(x - a) + (y - b) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0; \text{ and, } 1 + (y - b) \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 = 0. \quad (5)$$

Let  $u = dy/dx$  and  $v = d^2y/dx^2$ , for the sake of ease in manipulation, (5) then becomes

$$y - b = -\frac{1 + u^2}{v}; \text{ and, } x - a = \frac{1 + u^2}{v}u. \quad (6)$$

by substituting for  $y - b$  in the first of equations (5). Now  $u, v, x$  and  $y$  at any point of the curve are the same for both the curve and the osculating circle at that point, and therefore  $a, b^1$  and  $R$  can be determined from  $x, y, u, v$ . By substituting equation (6) in (4), we get

$$\frac{1}{R} = \frac{v}{\sqrt{(1 + u^2)^3}}. \quad (7)$$

The standard equation for the radius of curvature at the point  $(x, y)$  is

$$\frac{1}{R} = \frac{da}{ds} = \frac{\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}}{\left\{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2\right\}^{\frac{3}{2}}}; \text{ or, } R = \frac{\left\{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2\right\}^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}} \quad (8)$$

When the curve is but slightly inclined to the  $x$ -axis,  $dy/dx$  is practically zero, and the radius of curvature is given by the expression

$$R = \frac{1}{\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}}. \quad (9)$$

a result frequently used in physical calculations involving capillarity, superficial tension, theory of lenses, etc.

III. *The direction of curvature* has been discussed in § 60. It was there shown that a curve is concave or convex upwards at a point  $(x, y)$  according as  $d^2y/dx^2 >$  or  $< 0$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the radius of curvature at any point  $(x, y)$  on the ellipse

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1. \quad \therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{b^2x}{a^2y}; \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -\frac{b^4}{a^2y^3}; \quad R = -\frac{(a^4y^2 + b^4x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{a^4b^4}.$$

At the point  $x = a, y = 0, R = b^3/a$ . Hint. The steps for  $d^2y/dx^2$  are:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{b^4}{a^2y^3} = -\frac{b^2}{a^2} \cdot \frac{y - x \cdot dy/dx}{y^3} = -\frac{b^2}{a^2} \cdot \frac{a^2y^2 + b^2x^2}{a^2y^3} = -\frac{b^2}{a^2} \cdot \frac{a^2b^2}{y^3}.$$

(2) The radius of curvature on the curve  $xy = a$ , at any point  $(x, y)$ , is  $(x^2 + y^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}/2a$ .

<sup>1</sup> The determination of  $a$  and  $b$  is of little use in practical work. They give equations to the evolute of the curve under consideration. The *evolute* is the curve drawn through the centres of the osculatory circles at every part of the curve, the curve itself is called the *involute*. Example: the osculatory circle has the equation  $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = R$ .  $a$  and  $b$  may be determined from equations (4), (7) and (8). The evolute of the parabola  $y^2 = mx$  is  $27my^2 = 8(2x - m)^3$ .

## § 67. Envelopes.

The equation  $y = \frac{m}{a} + ax$ ,

represents a straight line cutting the  $y$ -axis at  $m/a$ , and making an angle  $\tan^{-1}a$  with the  $x$ -axis. If  $a$  varies by slight increments, the equation represents a series of straight lines so near together that their consecutive intersections may be considered to lie upon a continuous curve.  $a$  is said to be the **variable parameter** of the family, since the different members of the family are obtained by assigning arbitrary values for  $a$ . Let the equations

$$y_1 = \frac{m}{a} + ax \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

$$y_2 = \frac{m}{a + \delta a} + (a + \delta a)x \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

$$y_3 = \frac{m}{a + 2\delta a} + (a + 2\delta a)x \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

be three successive members of the family. As a general rule two

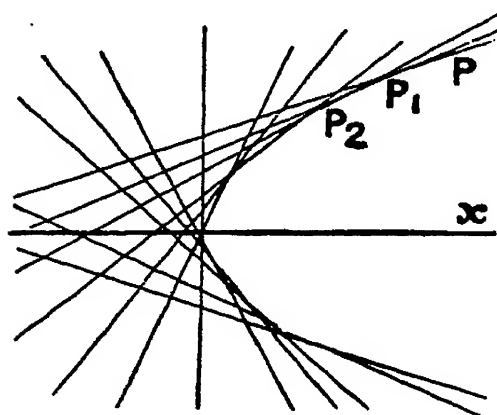


FIG. 96.—Envelope.

distinct curves in the same family will have a point of intersection. Let  $P$  (Fig. 96) be the point of intersection of curves (1) and (2);  $P_1$  the point of intersection of curves (2) and (3), then, since  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are both situated on the curve (2),  $PP_1$  is part of the locus of a curve whose arc  $PP_1$  coincides with an equal part of the curve (2). It can be proved, in fact, that the curve  $PP_1 \dots$  touches the

whole family of curves represented by the original equation. Such a curve is said to be an **envelope** of the family.

To find the equation of the envelope, bring all the terms of the original equation to one side,

$$y - \frac{m}{a} - ax = 0.$$

Then differentiate with respect to the variable parameter, and put

$$\frac{mda}{a^2} - xda = 0; \therefore \frac{m}{a^2} - x = 0.$$

Eliminate  $a$  between these equations,

$$y - \sqrt{m \cdot x} - x \sqrt{\frac{m}{x}} = 0, \text{ or } y - 2\sqrt{m \cdot x} = 0.$$

$$\therefore y^2 = 4mx.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the envelope of the family of circles

$$(x - a)^2 + y^2 = r^2,$$

where  $a$  is the variable parameter. Differentiate with respect to  $a$ , equate to 0, and we get  $x - a = 0$ ; then eliminating  $a$ , we get  $y = \pm r$ , which is the required envelope. The envelope  $y = \pm r$  represents two straight lines parallel to the  $x$ -axis,  $AB$ , and at a distance  $+r$  and  $-r$  from it. Shown Fig. 97.

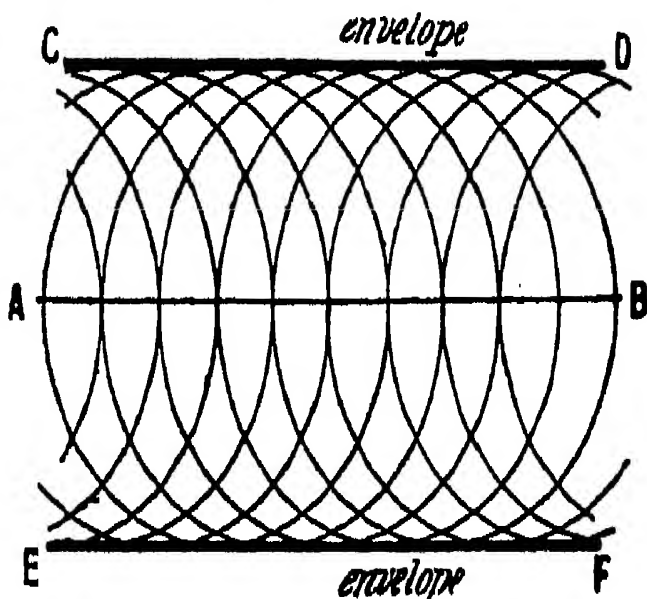


FIG. 97.—Double Envelope.

(2) Show that the envelope of the family of curves  $x/a + y/\beta = 1$ , where  $a$  and  $\beta$  are variable parameters subject to the condition that  $a\beta = 4m^2$ , is the hyperbola  $xy = m^2$ . Hint.

Differentiate each of the given equations with respect to the given parameters, and we get  $x da/a^2 + y d\beta/\beta^2 = 0$  from the first, and  $\beta da + a d\beta = 0$ , from the second. Eliminate  $da$  and  $d\beta$ . Hence  $x/a = y/\beta = \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\therefore a = 2x$ ;  $\beta = 2y$ . Substitute in  $a\beta = 4m^2$ , etc.

If a given system of rays be incident upon a bright curve, the envelope of the reflected rays is called a *caustic* by reflection.

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE INTEGRAL CALCULUS.

“Mathematics may be defined as the economy of counting. There is no problem in the whole of mathematics which cannot be solved by direct counting. But with the present implements of mathematics many operations of counting can be performed in a few minutes, which, without mathematics, would take a lifetime.”—  
E. MACH.

#### § 68. The Purpose of Integration.

In the first chapter, methods were described for finding the momentary rate of progress of any uniform or continuous change in terms of a limiting ratio, the so-called “differential coefficient” between two variable magnitudes. The fundamental relation between the variables must be accurately known before one can form a quantitative conception of the process taking place at any moment of time. When this relation or law is expressed in the form of a mathematical equation, the “methods of differentiation” enable us to determine the character of the continuous physical change at any instant of time. These methods have been described.

Another problem is even more frequently presented to the investigator. Knowing the momentary character of any natural process, it is asked: “What is the fundamental relation between the variables?” “What law governs the whole course of the physical change?”

In order to fix this idea, let us study an example. The conversion of cane sugar— $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$ —into invert sugar— $C_6H_{12}O_6$ —in the presence of dilute acids, takes place in accordance with the reaction:



Let  $x$  denote the amount of invert sugar formed in the time  $t$ ; the amount of sugar remaining in the solution will then be  $1 - x$ ,



Now let  $\delta x_1, \delta x_2, \dots$  denote the amounts of invert sugar formed in the solution during each second,  $\delta t$ . Assume, for the sake of simplicity, that one gram of cane sugar yields one gram of invert sugar.

Cane sugar transformed.				
During the 1st second, $\delta x_1 = 0.100$				
"	"	2nd	"	$\delta x_2 = 0.090$
"	"	3rd	"	$\delta x_3 = 0.081$
"	"	4th	"	$\delta x_4 = 0.073$
"	"	5th	"	$\delta x_5 = 0.066$
Total,				<u>0.410</u>

This means that if the chemical reaction proceeds during each successive interval with a uniform velocity equal to that which it possessed at the commencement of that interval, then, 0.410 gram of invert sugar would be formed at the end of five seconds. As a matter of fact, 0.3935 gram is formed.

But 0.410 gram is evidently too great, because the retardation is a uniform, not a jerky process. We have resolved it into a series of elementary stages and *pretended* that the rate of formation of invert sugar remained uniform during each elementary stage. We have ignored the retardation which takes place from moment to moment. If we shorten the interval and determine the amounts of invert sugar formed during intervals of say half a second, we shall have ten instead of five separate stages to sum up, thus :

Cane sugar transformed.				
During the 1st half second, $\delta x_1 = 0.0500$				
"	"	2nd	"	$\delta x_2 = 0.0475$
"	"	3rd	"	$\delta x_3 = 0.0451$
"	"	4th	"	$\delta x_4 = 0.0429$
"	"	5th	"	$\delta x_5 = 0.0407$
"	"	6th	"	$\delta x_6 = 0.0387$
"	"	7th	"	$\delta x_7 = 0.0367$
"	"	8th	"	$\delta x_8 = 0.0349$
"	"	9th	"	$\delta x_9 = 0.0332$
"	"	10th	"	$\delta x_{10} = 0.0315$
Total,				<u>0.4012</u>

The quantity of invert sugar calculated on the supposition that the velocity is retarded every half second instead of every second, corresponds more closely with the actual change. The smaller we make the interval of time the more accurate the result. Finally, by making  $\delta t$  infinitely small, although we should have

an infinite number of equations to add up, the actual summation would give a perfectly accurate result. To add up an infinite number of equations is, of course, an arithmetical impossibility, but, by the "methods of integration" we can actually perform this operation.

$x$  = Sum of all the terms  $V \cdot dt$ , between  $t = 0$ , and  $t = 5$ ;

$\therefore x = V \cdot dt + V \cdot dt + V \cdot dt + \dots$  to infinity.

This is more conveniently written,

$$x = \sum_0^5 (V \cdot dt); \text{ or, better still, } x = \int_0^5 V \cdot dt.$$

The signs " $\Sigma$ " and " $\int$ " are abbreviations for "the sum of all the terms containing..."; the subscripts and superscripts denote

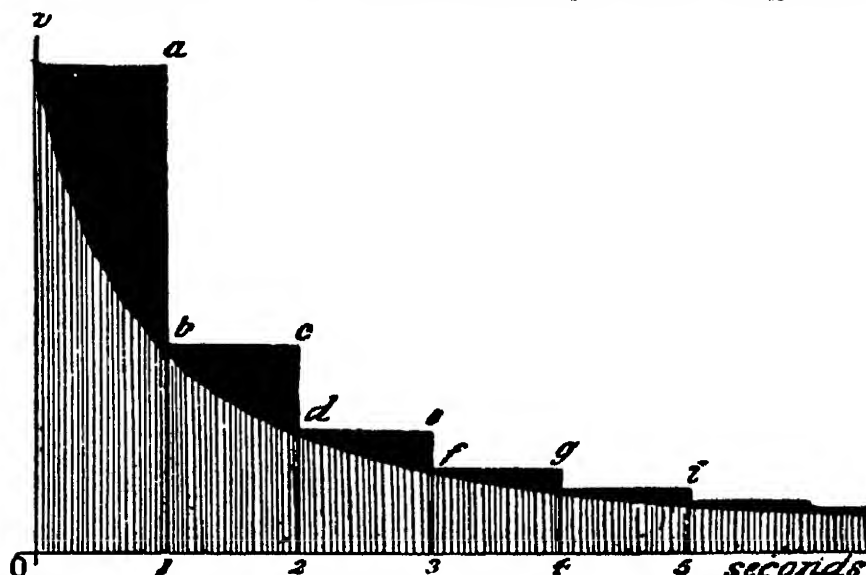


FIG. 98.

the limits between which the time has been reckoned. The second member of the last equation is called, on Bernoulli's suggestion, an **integral**. " $\int f(x) \cdot dx$ " is read "the integral of  $f(x) \cdot dx$ ". When the limits between which the integration (evidently another word for "summation") is to be performed, are stated, the integral is said to be **definite**; when the limits are omitted, the integral is said to be **indefinite**. The superscript to the symbol " $\int$ " is called the **upper or superior limit**; the subscript, the **lower or inferior limit**. For example,  $\int_{v_1}^{v_2} p \cdot dv$  denotes the sum of an infinite number of terms  $p \cdot dv$ , when  $v$  is taken between the limits  $v_2$  and  $v_1$ . In order that the "limit" of integration may not be confounded with the "limiting value" of a function, some writers call the former the "end-values of the integral".

To prevent any misunderstanding, I will now give a graphic



representation of the above process. Take  $Ot$  and  $Ov$  as co-ordinate axes (Figs. 98 and 99). Mark off, along the abscissa axis, intervals 1, 2, 3, ..., corresponding to the intervals of time  $\delta t$ . Let the ordinate axis represent the velocities of the reaction during these different intervals of time. Let the curve  $v b d f h \dots$  represent the actual velocity of the transformation on the supposition that the rate of formation of invert sugar is a uniform and continuous process of retardation. This is the real nature of the change. But we have pretended that the velocity remains constant during a short but finite interval of time say  $\delta t = 1$  second. The amount of cane sugar inverted during the first second is,

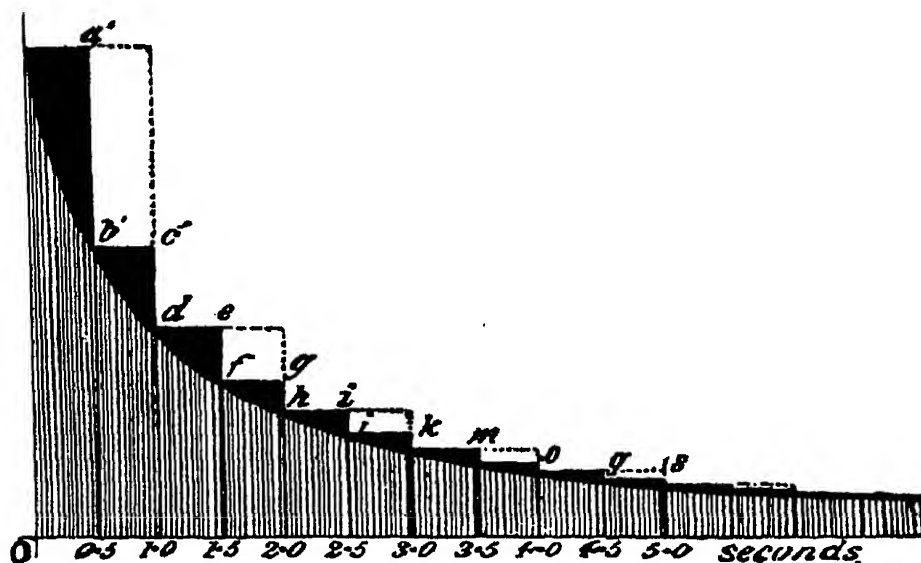


FIG. 99.

therefore, represented by the area  $valO$  (Fig. 98); during the second interval by the area  $bc21$ , and so on.

At the end of the first interval the velocity at  $a$  is supposed to suddenly fall to  $b$ , whereas, in reality, the decrease should be represented by the gradual slope of the curve  $vb$ .

The error resulting from the inexact nature of this "simplifying assumption" is graphically represented by the blackened area  $vab$ ; for succeeding intervals the error is similarly represented by  $bcd$ ,  $def$ , ... In Fig. 99, by halving the interval, we have considerably reduced the magnitude of the error. This is shown by the diminished area of the blackened portions for the first and succeeding seconds of time. *The smaller we make the interval, the less the error, until, at the limit, when the interval is made infinitely small, the result is absolutely correct.* The amount of invert sugar

formed during the first five seconds is then represented by the area  $v b d f \dots 50$ .

The above reasoning will repay careful study; once mastered, the "methods of integration" are, in general, mere routine work.

The operation<sup>1</sup> denoted by the symbol " $\int$ " is called **integration**. When this sign is placed before a differential function, say  $dx$ , it means that the function is to be integrated with respect to  $dx$ . *Integration is essentially a method for obtaining the sum of an infinite number of infinitely small quantities.* This does not mean, as some writers have it, "if enough nothings be taken their sum is something". The integral itself is not exactly what we usually understand by the term "sum," but it is rather "the limit of a sum when the number of terms is infinitely great".

Not only can the amount of substance formed in a chemical reaction during any given interval of time be expressed in this manner, but all sorts of varying magnitudes can be subject to a similar operation. The *distance* passed over by a train travelling with a known velocity, can be represented in terms of a definite integral. The *quantity of heat* necessary to raise the temperature,  $\theta$ , of a given mass,  $m$ , of a substance from  $\theta_1^\circ$  to  $\theta_2^\circ$ , is given by the integral  $\int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} m\sigma \cdot d\theta$ , where  $\sigma$  denotes the specific heat of the substance. The *work* done by a variable force,  $F$ , when a body changes its position from  $s_0$  to  $s_1$  is  $\int_{s_0}^{s_1} F \cdot ds$ . This is called a **space integral**. The impulse of a variable force  $F$ , acting during the interval of time  $t_2 - t_1$ , is given by the **time integral**  $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} F \cdot dt$ . By Newton's second law, "the change of momentum of any mass,  $m$ , is equal to the impulse it receives". Momentum is defined as the product of the mass into the velocity. If, when  $t$  is  $t_1$ ,  $v = v_1$ ; and, when  $t$  is  $t_2$ ,  $v = v_2$ , Newton's law may be written

$$\int_{v_1}^{v_2} m \cdot dv = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} F \cdot dt.$$

The quantity of heat developed in a conductor during the passage of an electric current of intensity  $C$ , for a short interval of time  $dt$  is given by the expression  $kC \cdot dt$  (Joule's law), where  $k$  is a constant depending on the nature of the circuit. If the current remains constant during any short interval of time, the amount of

---

<sup>1</sup> The symbol " $\int$ " is supposed to be the first letter of the word "sum". "Omn," from *omnia*, meaning "all," was once used in place of " $\int$ ". The first letter of the differential  $dx$  is the initial letter of the word "difference".

heat generated by the current during the interval of time  $t_2 - t_1$ , is given by the integral  $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} kC \cdot dt$ . The quantity of gas,  $q$ , consumed in a building during any interval of time  $t_2 - t_1$ , may be represented as a definite integral,

$$q = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} v \cdot dt,$$

where  $v$  denotes the velocity of efflux of the gas from the burners. The value of  $q$  can be read off on the dial of the gas meter at any time. The gas meter performs the integration automatically. The cyclometer of a bicycle can be made to integrate,

$$s = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} v dt.$$

Differentiation and integration are reciprocal operations in the same sense that multiplication is the inverse of division, addition of subtraction. Thus,

$$a \times b \div b = a; \quad a + b - b = a; \quad \sqrt{a^2} = a; \\ d(a \cdot dx) = a \cdot dx; \quad \int dx = x;$$

$3x^2 dx$  is the differential of  $x^3$ , so is  $x^3$  the integral of  $3x^2 dx$ . The differentiation of an integral, or the integration of a differential always gives the original function. The signs of differentiation and of integration mutually cancel each other. The integral,  $\int f(x) dx$ , is sometimes called an *anti-differential*. Integration reverses the operation of differentiation and restores the differentiated function to its original value, but with certain limitations to be indicated later on.

While the majority of mathematical functions can be differentiated without any particular difficulty, the reverse operation of integration is not always so easy, in some cases it cannot be done at all. If, however, the function from which the differential has been derived, is known, the integration can always be performed. Knowing that  $d(\log x) = x^{-1} dx$ , it follows at once that  $\int x^{-1} dx = \log x$ . The differential of  $x^n$  is  $nx^{n-1} dx$ , hence  $\int nx^{n-1} dx = x^n$ . In order that the differential of  $x^n$  may assume the form of  $x^{-1}$ , we must have  $n - 1 = -1$ , or  $n = 0$ . In that case  $x^n$  becomes  $x^0 = 1$ . This has no differential. The algebraic function  $x^n$  cannot therefore give rise to a differential of the form  $x^{-1} dx$ . Nor can any other known function except  $\log x$  give rise to  $x^{-1} dx$ . If logarithms had not been invented we could not have integrated  $\int x^{-1} dx$ . The integration of algebraic functions may

also give rise to transcendental functions. Thus,  $(1 - x)^{-\frac{1}{2}}dx$  becomes  $\sin^{-1}x$ ; and  $(1 + x^2)^{-1}dx$  becomes  $\tan^{-1}x$ . Still further, the integration of many expressions can only be effected when new functions corresponding with these forms have been invented. The integrals  $\int e^{x^2} \cdot dx$ , and  $\int (x^3 + 1)^{-\frac{1}{2}}dx$ , for example, have not yet been evaluated, because we do not know any function which will give either of these forms when differentiated.

The nature of mathematical reasoning may now be defined with greater precision than was possible in § 1. There, stress was laid upon the search for constant relations between observed facts. But the best results in science have been won by anticipating Nature by means of the so-called working hypothesis. The investigator first endeavours to reproduce his ideas in the form of a differential equation representing the momentary state of the phenomenon. Thus Wilhelmy's law (1850) is nothing more than the mathematician's way of stating an old, previously unverified, speculation of Berthollet (1779); while Guldberg and Waage's law (1864-69) is still another way of expressing the same thing.

To test the consequences of Berthollet's hypothesis, it is clearly necessary to find the amount of chemical action taking place during intervals of time accessible to experimental measurement. It is obvious that Wilhelmy's equation in its present form will not do, but by "methods of integration" it is easy to show that if

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(1 - x), \text{ then, } k = \frac{1}{t} \cdot \log \frac{1}{1 - x},$$

where  $x$  denotes the amount of substance transformed during the time  $t$ .  $x$  is measurable,  $t$  is measurable. We are now in a position to compare the fundamental assumption with observed facts. If Berthollet's guess is a good one,  $k$ , above, must have a constant value. But this is work for the laboratory, not the study, as indicated in connection with Newton's law of cooling, § 20.

Integration, therefore, bridges the gap between theory and fact by reproducing the hypothesis in a form suitable for experimental verification, and, at the same time, furnishes a direct answer to the two questions raised at the beginning of this section. The idea was represented in my *Chemical Statics and Dynamics* (1904), thus:—

Hypothesis  $\rightarrow$  Differential Equation  $\rightarrow$  Integration  $\rightarrow$  Observation.

We shall return to the above physical process after we have gone through a drilling in the methods to be employed for the integration of expressions in which the variables are so related that all the  $x$ 's and  $dx$ 's can be collected to one side of the equation, all the  $y$ 's and

$dy$ 's to the other. In a later chapter we shall have to study the integration of equations representing more complex natural processes.

If the mathematical expression of our ideas leads to equations which cannot be integrated, the working hypothesis will either have to be verified some other way,<sup>1</sup> or else relegated to the great repository of unverified speculations.

### § 69. Table of Standard Integrals.

Every differentiation in the differential calculus, corresponds with an integration in the integral calculus. Sets of corresponding functions are called "Tables of Integrals". Table II., page 193, contains the more important; handy for reference, better still for memorizing.

### § 70. The Simpler Methods of Integration.

*I. Integration of the product of a constant term and a differential.* On page 38, it was pointed out that "the differential of the product of a variable and a constant, is equal to the constant multiplied by the differential of the variable". It follows directly that the integral of the product of a constant and a differential, is equal to the constant multiplied by the integral of the differential. *E.g.*, if  $a$  is constant,

$$\int a \cdot dx = a \int dx = ax; \int \log a \cdot dx = \log a \int dx = x \cdot \log a.$$

On the other hand, the value of an integral is altered if a term containing one of the variables is placed *outside* the integral sign. For instance, the reader will see very shortly that while

$$\int x^2 dx = \frac{1}{3}x^3; \int x \int dx = \frac{1}{2}x^3.$$

*II. A constant term must be added to every integral.* It has been shown that a constant term always disappears from an expression during differentiation, thus,

$$d(x + C) = dx.$$

This is equivalent to stating that there is an infinite number of expressions, differing only in the value of the constant term, which, when differentiated, produce the same differential. In

---

<sup>1</sup> Say, by slipping in another "simplifying assumption". Clairaut expressed his ideas of the moon's motion in the form of a set of complicated differential equations, but left them in this incomplete stage with the invitation, "Now integrate them who can".

TABLE II.—STANDARD INTEGRALS.

Function.	Differential Calculus.	Integral Calculus.
$u = x^n.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = nx^{n-1}.$	$\int x^n dx = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}.$ (1)
$u = a^x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = a^x \log_e a.$	$\int a^x dx = \frac{a^x}{\log_e a}.$ (2)
$u = e^x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = e^x.$	$\int e^x dx = e^x.$ (3)
$u = \log_e x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{x}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{x} = \log_e x.$ (4)
$u = \sin x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = \cos x.$	$\int \cos ax dx = \frac{\sin ax}{a}.$ (5)
$u = \cos x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = -\sin x.$	$\int \sin ax dx = -\frac{\cos ax}{a}.$ (6)
$u = \tan x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = \sec^2 x.$	$\int \sec^2 ax dx = \frac{\tan ax}{a}.$ (7)
$u = \cot x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = -\operatorname{cosec}^2 x.$	$\int \operatorname{cosec}^2 ax \cdot dx = -\frac{\cot ax}{a}.$ (8)
$u = \sec x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{\sin x}{\cos^2 x}.$	$\int \frac{\sin x}{\cos^2 x} dx = \sec x.$ (9)
$u = \operatorname{cosec} x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = -\frac{\cos x}{\sin^2 x}.$	$\int \frac{\cos x}{\sin^2 x} dx = -\operatorname{cosec} x.$ (10)
$u = \sin^{-1} x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(1-x^2)}}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(a^2-x^2)}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} = \sin^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \end{array} \right.$ (11)
$u = \cos^{-1} x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{(1-x^2)}}.$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} = -\cos^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \end{array} \right.$ (12)
$u = \tan^{-1} x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{1+x^2}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{a^2+x^2} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} = \frac{1}{a} \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \end{array} \right.$ (13)
$u = \cot^{-1} x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = -\frac{1}{1+x^2}.$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} = -\frac{1}{a} \cot^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \end{array} \right.$ (14)
$u = \sec^{-1} x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{x\sqrt{(x^2-1)}}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{x\sqrt{(x^2-a^2)}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} = \frac{1}{a} \sec^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \end{array} \right.$ (15)
$u = \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = -\frac{1}{x\sqrt{(x^2-1)}}.$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} = -\frac{1}{a} \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \end{array} \right.$ (16)
$u = \operatorname{vers}^{-1} x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2x-x^2)}}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(2x-x^2)}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} = \operatorname{vers}^{-1} x. \end{array} \right.$ (17)
$u = \operatorname{covers}^{-1} x.$	$\frac{du}{dx} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2x-x^2)}}.$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} = -\operatorname{covers}^{-1} x. \end{array} \right.$ (18)

stating the result of any integration, therefore, we must provide for any possible constant term, by adding on an undetermined, “empirical,” or “arbitrary” constant, called the **constant of integration**, and usually represented by the letter  $C$ . Thus,

$$\int du = u + C.$$

If we are given

$$dy = dx,$$

N

or, if we put  $C = C_2 - C_1$ , we get  $\int dy + C_1 = \int dx + C_2$ ;  $y + C_1 = x + C_2$ ;  
 $y = x + C$ .

The geometrical signification of this constant is analogous to that of " $b$ " in the tangent form of the equation of the straight line, formula (8), page 94; thus, the equation

$$y = mx + b,$$

represents an infinite number of straight lines, each one of which has a slope  $m$  to the  $x$ -axis and cuts the  $y$ -axis at some point  $b$ . An infinite number of values may be assigned to  $b$ . Similarly, an infinite number of values may be assigned to  $C$  in  $\int \dots dx + C$ .

EXAMPLE.—Find a curve with the slope, at any point  $(x, y)$ , of  $2x$  to the  $x$ -axis. Since  $dy/dx$  is a measure of the slope of the curve at the point  $(x, y)$ ,  $dy/dx = 2x$ ;  $\therefore y = x^2 + C$ . If  $C = 0$ , we have the curve  $y = x^2$ ; if  $C = 1$ , another curve,  $y = x^2 + 1$ ; if  $C = 3$ ,  $y = x^2 + 3$ ... In the given problem we do not know enough to be able to say what particular value  $C$  ought to possess.

According to (5), (6), (7), (8), Table II., which are based upon (1), (2), (3), (4), page 48,

$$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \sin^{-1}x = -\cos^{-1}x; \quad \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} = \tan^{-1}x = -\cot^{-1}x,$$

etc. This means that  $\sin^{-1}x$ ,  $\cos^{-1}x$ ; or  $\tan^{-1}x$ ,  $\cot^{-1}x$ ,... *only differ by a constant term*. This agrees with the trigonometrical properties of these functions illustrated on page 48. The following remarks are worth thinking over:

"Fourier's theorem is a most valuable tool of science, practical and theoretical, but it necessitates adaptation to any particular case by the provision of exact data, the use, that is, of definite figures which mathematicians humorously call 'constants,' because they vary with every change of condition. A simple formula is  $n + n = 2n$ , so also  $n \times n = n^2$ . In the concrete, these come to the familiar statement that 2 and 2 equals 4. So in the abstract,  $40 + 40 = 80$ . but in the concrete two 40 ft. ladders will in no way correspond to one 80 ft. ladder. They would require something else to join them end to end and to strengthen them. That something would correspond to a 'constant' in the formula. But even then we could not climb 80 ft. into the air unless there was something to secure the joined ladder. We could not descend 80 ft. into the earth unless there was an opening, nor could we cross an 80 ft. gap. For each of these uses we need something which is a 'constant' for the special case. It is in this way that all mathematical demonstrations and assertions need to be examined. They mislead people by their very definiteness and apparent exactness...."—J. T. SPRAGUE.

III. *Integration of a sum and of a difference.* Since

$$d(x + y + z + \dots) = dx + dy + dz + \dots,$$

it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\int(dx + dy + dz + \dots) &= \int dx + \int dy + \int dz + \dots, \\ &= x + y + z + \dots,\end{aligned}$$

plus the arbitrary constant of integration. It is customary to append the integration constant to the final result, not to the intermediate stages of the integration. Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}\int(dx - dy - dz - \dots) &= \int dx - \int dy - \int dz - \dots, \\ &= x - y - z - \dots + C.\end{aligned}$$

In words, the integral of the sum or difference of any number of differentials is equal to the sum of their respective integrals.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Remembering that  $\log xy = \log x + \log y$ , show that

$$\int \{\log(a + bx)(1 + 2x)\} dx = \int \log(a + bx) dx + \int \log(1 + 2x) dx + C.$$

$$(2) \text{ Show } \int \log \frac{a + bx}{1 + 2x} dx = \int \log(a + bx) dx - \int \log(1 + 2x) dx + C.$$

IV *Integration of  $x^n dx$ .* Since the differential calculus, page 37, teaches us that

$$d(x^{n+1}) = (n+1)x^n dx; \quad x^n \cdot dx = d\left(\frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}\right);$$

we infer that

$$\therefore \int x^n dx = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + C. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

Hence, to integrate any expression of the form  $ax^n \cdot dx$ , it is necessary to increase the index of the variable by unity, multiply by any constant term that may be present, and divide the product by the new index. An apparent exception occurs when  $n = -1$ , for then

$$\int x^{-1} \cdot dx = \frac{x^{-1+1}}{1-1} = \frac{1}{0} = \infty.$$

But we can get at the integration by remembering that

$$d(\log x) = \frac{dx}{x} = x^{-1} \cdot dx; \quad \therefore \int \frac{dx}{x} = \log x + C. \quad . \quad (2)$$

If, therefore, the numerator of a fraction can be obtained by the differentiation of its denominator, the integral is the natural logarithm of the denominator.

I want the beginner to notice that instead of writing  $\log x + C$ , we may put  $\log x + \log a = \log ax$ , for  $\log a$  is an arbitrary constant as well as  $C$ . Hence  $\log a = C$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) One of the commonest equations in physical chemistry is,  $dx = k(a - x)dt$ . Rearranging terms, we obtain

N \*



$$k \int dt = \int \frac{dx}{a-x}; \therefore kt = - \int \frac{d(a-x)}{a-x};$$

Hence  $kt = -\log(a-x)$ ; but  $\log 1 = 0$ ,  $\therefore kt = \log 1 - \log(a-x)$ ; or,

$$k = \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{1}{a-x} + C.$$

(2) Wilhelmy's equation,  $dy/dt = -ay$ , already discussed in connection with the "compound interest law," page 63, may be written

$$\frac{dy}{y} = -a dt; \therefore \int \frac{dy}{y} = -at.$$

Remembering that  $\log e = 1$ ;  $\log y = \log b - at$   $\log e = \log e - at + \log b$ , where  $\log b$  is the integration constant, hence,  $\log be^{-at} = \log y$ ; and,  $y = be^{-at}$ . A meaning for the constants will be deduced in the next section.

(3) Show  $\int 4x^{-5} dx = 4 \int x^{-5} \cdot dx = -x^{-4} + C$ . Here  $n$  of (1) = -5, and  $n+1 = -5+1 = -4$ .

(4) Show  $\int ax^3 \cdot dx = \frac{1}{4}ax^4 + C$ .

(5) Show  $\int 4ax - \frac{1}{x} \cdot dx = 5ax^2 + C$ .

(6) Show  $\int 2bx \cdot dx / (a - bx^2) = -\log(a - bx^2) + C$ .

(7) By a similar method to that employed for evaluating  $\int x^n dx$ ;  $\int x^{-1} dx$ ; show that

$$\int a^x dx = \frac{a^x}{\log_e a} + C; \int e^x dx = e^x + C; \int e^{-ax} dx = -\frac{1}{a}e^{-ax} + C. \quad (3)$$

$$(8) \text{ Prove that } -\int \frac{dx}{x^n} = \frac{1}{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{x^{n-1}} + C, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

by differentiating the right-hand side. Keep your result for use later on.

(9) Evaluate  $\int \sin^4 x \cdot \cos x \cdot dx$ . Note that  $\cos x \cdot dx = d(\sin x)$ , and that  $\sin^4 x$  is the mathematician's way<sup>1</sup> of writing  $(\sin x)^4$ . Ansr.  $\frac{1}{5} \sin^5 x + C$ .

$$\therefore \int \sin^4 x \cdot \cos x \cdot dx = \int \frac{1}{4} \sin^4 x \cdot d(\sin x) = \frac{1}{5} \sin^5 x + C.$$

(10) What is wrong with this problem: "Evaluate the integral  $\int x^3$ "? Hint. The symbol " $\int$ " has no meaning apart from the accompanying " $dx$ ". For brevity, we call " $\int$ " the symbol of integration, but the integral must be written or understood to mean  $\int \dots dx$ .

(11) If  $y = a + bt + ct^2$ ; show that  $\int y dt = at + \frac{1}{2}bt^2 + \frac{1}{3}ct^3 + C$ . (Heilborn, *Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 7, 367, 1891).

V. *Integration of the product of a polynomial and its differential.*  
Since, page 39,

$$d(ax^m + b)^n = n(ax^m + b)^{n-1} amx^{m-1} dx,$$

where  $amx^{m-1} dx$  has been obtained by differentiating the expression within the brackets,

$$\therefore n \int (ax^m + b)^{n-1} amx^{m-1} dx = (ax^m + b)^n + C. \quad (5)$$

In words, integrate the product of a polynomial with its differ-

<sup>1</sup> But we must *not* write  $\sin^{-1} x$  for  $(\sin x)^{-1}$ , nor  $(\sin x)^{-1}$  for  $\sin^{-1} x$ .  $\sin^{-1}$ ,  $\cos^{-1}$ ,  $\tan^{-1}$ , ... have the *special* meaning pointed out in § 17.

ential, increase the index of the polynomial by unity and divide the result by the new exponent.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show  $\int (8ax^3 + 1)^2 9ax^2 \cdot dx = \frac{1}{3}(8ax^3 + 1)^3 + C$ .

(2) Show  $\int (x + 1)^{-\frac{2}{3}} dx = 3(x + 1)^{\frac{1}{3}} + C$ .

VI. *Integration of expressions of the type :*

$$(a + bx + cx^2 + \dots)^m x dx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

where  $m$  is a positive integer. Multiply out and integrate each term separately.

EXAMPLES.—(1)  $\int (1 + x)^2 x^3 dx = \int (x^3 + 2x^4 + x^5) dx = (\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{5}x + \frac{1}{6}x^2)x^4 + C$ .

(2) Show that  $\int (a + x\frac{1}{2})^2 x\frac{1}{2} dx = (\frac{2}{3}a^2 + ax\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}x)x\frac{1}{2} + C$

Here are a few simple though useful “tips” for special notice :

(i) Any constant term or a number may be added to the numerator of a fraction provided the differential sign is placed before it. The object of this is usually to show that the numerator of the given integral has been obtained by the differentiation of the denominator. If successful the integral reduces to the logarithm of the denominator. *E.g.*,

$$2 \int \frac{x dx}{1 - x^2} = - \int \frac{d(1 - x^2)}{1 - x^2} = -\log (1 - x^2) = \log \frac{1}{1 - x^2} + C.$$

H. Danneel (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 33, 415, 1900) used an integral like this in studying the “free energy of chemical reactions”.

(ii) Note the addition of  $\log 1$  makes no difference to the value of an expression, because  $\log 1 = 0$ ; similarly, multiplication by  $\log_e e$  makes no difference to the value of any term, because  $\log_e e = 1$ .

(iii)  $\int \sin nx \cdot dx$  may be made to depend on the known integral  $\int \sin nx \cdot d(nx)$  by multiplying and dividing by  $n$ . *E.g.*,

$$\int \cos nx \cdot dx = \frac{1}{n} \int \cos nx \cdot d(nx) = \frac{1}{n} \sin nx + C.$$

(iv) It makes no difference to the value of any term if the same quantity be added and then subtracted from it; or if the term be multiplied with and then divided by the same quantity. *E.g.*,

$$\int \frac{x \cdot dx}{1 + 2x} = \int \frac{(\frac{1}{2} + x) - \frac{1}{2}}{1 + 2x} dx = \int \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + 2x} \right) dx = \frac{x}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{d(1 + 2x)}{1 + 2x}.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show by (16), page 44, and (2) above,

$$\int \frac{dx}{(x^2 \log x - x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \int \frac{d(\log x)}{(\log x - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \int \frac{d(\log x - 1)}{(\log x - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = 2(\log x - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}} + C.$$

(2) The following equation occurs in the theory of electrons (*Encyc. Brit.*,

26, 61, 1902) :  $dx/dt = (ua/D) \sin pt$ ; hence show  $x = - (ua/pD) \cos pt + C$  where  $u$ ,  $a$ ,  $p$  and  $D$  are constants. Use (iv) above.

(8) Show that  $\int x(1 + 2x)^{-1} dx = \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{4} \log(1 + 2x) + C$ . Use (iv) and (i).

The favourite methods for integration are by processes known as "the substitution of a new variable," "integration by parts" and by "resolution into partial fractions". The student is advised to pay particular attention to these operations. Before proceeding to the description of these methods, I will return once more to the integration constant.

### § 71. How to find a Value for the Integration Constant.

It is perhaps unnecessary to remind the reader that integration constants must not be confused with the constants belonging to the original equation. For instance, in the law of descent of a falling body

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = g; \int dV = g \int dt; \text{ or, } V = gt + C. \quad (1)$$

Here  $g$  is a constant representing the increase of velocity due to the earth's attraction,  $C$  is the constant of integration. There are two methods in general use for finding the value of the integration constant.

FIRST METHOD.—Returning to the falling body, and to its equation of motion,

$$V = gt + C.$$

On attempting to apply this equation to an actual experiment, we should find that, at the moment we began to calculate the velocity, the body might be moving upwards or downwards, or starting from a position of rest. All these possibilities are included in the integration constant  $C$ . Let  $V_0$  denote the initial velocity of the body. The computation begins when  $t = 0$ , hence

$$V_0 = g \times 0 + C; \text{ or, } C = V_0.$$

If the body starts to fall from a position of rest,  $V_0 = C = 0$ , and

$$\int dv = gt; \text{ or, } V = gt.$$

This suggests a method for evaluating the constant whenever the nature of the problem permits us to deduce the value of the function for particular values of the variable. If possible, therefore, substitute particular values of the variables in the equation containing the integration constant and solve the resulting expression for  $C$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the value of  $C$  in the equation

$$t = \frac{1}{k} \log \frac{1}{a-x} + C, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

which is the integral of a standard “velocity equation” of physical chemistry.  $t$  represents the time required for the formation of an amount of substance  $x$ . When the reaction is just beginning,  $x = 0$  and  $t = 0$ . Substitute these values of  $x$  and  $t$  in (2).

$$\frac{1}{k} \log \frac{1}{a} + C = 0; \text{ or, } C = -\frac{1}{k} \log \frac{1}{a}.$$

Substitute this value of  $C$  in the given equation and we get

$$t = \frac{1}{k} \left( \log \frac{1}{a-x} - \log \frac{1}{a} \right) = \frac{1}{k} \log \frac{a}{a-x}.$$

(2) If  $\frac{d(\log K)}{dT} = -\frac{10232 - 0.1685T - 0.00101T^2}{2T^2}$ , and  $K = 6.25$ , when

$T = 3100$ , show that the integration constant is  $-2.0603$ . Hint.  $\log k = 5116/T + 0.08425 \log T + 0.000505T + C$ . Use natural logs. Substitute the above values of  $k$  and  $T$  in this equation. We get  $1.8326 = 1.65 + 0.6774 + 1.5655 + C$ ; etc.

(3) If the temperature of a substance be raised  $dT$  ( $^{\circ}$  abs.) it is commonly said that it has gained the entropy  $d\phi = dT/T$ . Show that the entropy,  $\phi$ , of one gram of water at  $T^{\circ}$  is  $\log T - \log 273$  if the entropy at  $0^{\circ}$  C. be taken as zero. Hint. When  $\phi = 0$ ,  $T = 273$ , etc.

(4) In Soret's experiments “On the Density of Ozone” (*Ann. Chim. Phys.* [4], 7, 113, 1866; 13, 257, 1868) a vessel  $A$  containing  $v_0$  volumes of ozone mixed with oxygen was placed in communication with another vessel  $B$  containing oxygen, but no ozone. The volume,  $dv$ , of ozone which diffused from  $A$  to  $B$  during the given interval of time,  $dt$ , is proportional to the difference in the quantity of ozone present in the two vessels, and to the duration of the interval  $dt$ . If  $v$  volumes of ozone have passed from  $A$  to  $B$  at the time  $t$ , the vessel  $A$ , at the time  $t$ , will have  $v_0 - v$  volumes of ozone in it, and the vessel  $B$  will have  $v$  volumes. The difference in the amount of ozone in the two vessels is therefore  $v_0 - 2v$ . By Graham's law, the rate of diffusion of ozone from  $A$  to  $B$  is inversely proportional to the square root of the density,  $\rho$ , of the ozone. Hence, by the rules of variation, page 22,

$$dv = \frac{a}{\sqrt{\rho}} (v_0 - 2v) dt; \text{ or, } \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{\rho}} (v_0 - 2v),$$

where  $a$  is a constant whose numerical value depends upon the nature of the vessels used in the experiment, etc. Now, remembering that  $v_0$  is a constant,

$$\int \frac{dv}{v_0 - 2v} = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d(2v)}{v_0 - 2v} = -\frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d(v_0 - 2v)}{v_0 - 2v} = -\frac{\log(v_0 - 2v)}{2} + C.$$

But when  $t = 0$ ,  $v = 0$ ,  $\therefore C = \frac{1}{2} \log v_0$ . Consequently,

$$\log \frac{v_0}{v_0 - 2v} = \frac{2a}{\sqrt{\rho}} t; \text{ or, } \frac{v}{v_0} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{2at}{\sqrt{\rho}}} \right).$$

For the same gas, the same apparatus, and the same interval of time,  $a$ ,  $t$ , and  $\rho$  will all be constant, and therefore,

$$\frac{v_n}{v_0} = \text{Constant}.$$

With different gases, under the same conditions, any difference in the value of  $v_n/v_0$  must be due to the different densities of the gases. The mean of a series of experiments with chlorine (density, 35.5), carbon dioxide (density, 22), and ozone (density,  $x$ ), gave the following for the value of this ratio:—

$$\text{CO}_2, 0.29; \text{Ozone}, 0.271; \text{Cl}_2, 0.227.$$

Compare chlorine with ozone. Let  $x$  denote the density of ozone. Then, by Graham's law,

$$\frac{v_n}{v_0}(\text{O}_3) : \frac{v_n}{v_0}(\text{Cl}_2) = \sqrt{35.5} : \sqrt{x}; \therefore (0.271)^2 : (0.227)^2 = 35.5 : x; \therefore x = 24.9,$$

which agrees with the triatomic molecule,  $\text{O}_3$ .

**SECOND METHOD.**—Another way is to find the values of  $x$  corresponding to two different values of  $t$ . Substitute the two sets of results in the given equation. The constant can then be made to disappear by subtraction. The result of this method is to *eliminate*, not *evaluate* the constant.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) In the above equation, (2), assume that when  $t = t_1$ ,  $x = x_1$ , and when  $t = t_2$ ,  $x = x_2$ ; where  $x_1, x_2, t_1$  and  $t_2$  are numerical measurements. Substitute these results in (2).

$$t_1 = \frac{1}{k} \log \frac{1}{a - x_1} + C; \quad t_2 = \frac{1}{k} \log \frac{1}{a - x_2} + C.$$

By subtraction and rearrangement of terms

$$k = \frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \log \frac{a - x_1}{a - x_2}.$$

(2) If the specific heat,  $\sigma$ , of a substance at  $\theta^\circ$  is given by the expression  $\sigma = a + b\theta$ , and the quantity of heat,  $dQ$ , required to raise the temperature of unit mass of the substance is  $dQ = \sigma d\theta$ , show that the amount of heat required to heat the substance from  $\theta_1^\circ$  to  $\theta_2^\circ$  is

$$Q = \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} (a + b\theta) d\theta = a(\theta_2 - \theta_1) + \frac{1}{2}b(\theta_2^2 - \theta_1^2).$$

Numerous examples of both methods will occur in the course of this work. Some have already been given in the discussion on the "Compound Interest Law in Nature," page 56.

## § 72. Integration by the Substitution of a New Variable.

When a function can neither be integrated by reference to Table II., nor by the methods of § 71, a suitable change of variable may cause the function to assume a less refractory form. The new variable is, of course, a known function of the old. This method of integration is, perhaps, best explained by the study of a few typical examples.

*I. Evaluate  $\int (a + x)^n dx$ . Put  $a + x = y$ ; therefore,  $dx = dy$*

Substitute  $y$  and  $dy$  in place of their equivalent values  $a - x$  and  $dx$  in the given integral. We thus obtain an integral with a new variable  $y$ , in place of  $x$ , namely,  $\int (a + x)^n dx = \int y^n dy$ . From (1), page 195,  $\int y^n dy = y^{n+1}/(n+1) + C$ . Restore the original values of  $y$  and  $dy$ , and we get

$$\int (a + x^n) dx = \frac{(a + x)^{n+1}}{n+1} + C. \quad (1)$$

When the student has become familiar with integration he will find no particular difficulty in doing these examples mentally.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Integrate  $\int (a - bx)^n dx$ . Ansr.  $-(a - bx)^{n+1}/b(n+1) + C$ .

(2) Integrate  $\int (a^2 + x^2)^{-1/2} x dx$ . Ansr.  $\sqrt{(a^2 + x^2)} + C$ .

(3) Show

$$\int \frac{dx}{(a+x)^n} = -\frac{1}{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{(a+x)^{n-1}} + C; \quad \int \frac{dx}{(a-x)^n} = \frac{1}{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{(a-x)^{n-1}} + C.$$

(4) Show that  $\int \frac{dx}{x \cdot \log x} = \frac{d(\log x)}{\log x} = \log(\log x) + C$ .

II. Integrate  $(1 - ax)^m x^n dx$ , where  $m$  or  $n$  is a positive integer, and the  $x$  within the brackets has unit index. Put  $y = 1 - ax$ , therefore,  $x = (1 - y)/a$ ; and  $dx = -dy/a$ . Substitute these values of  $x$  and  $dx$  in the original equation, and we get

$$\int (1 - ax)^m x^n dx = \frac{1}{a^{n+1}} \int (1 - y)^n (-y^m) dy,$$

which has the same form as (6), page 197. The rest of the work is obvious—expand  $(1 - y)^n$  by the binomial theorem, page 36; multiply through with  $-y^m dy$ ; and integrate as indicated in III., page 194.

EXAMPLE.—Show  $\int x(a+x)^{\frac{1}{2}} dx = \frac{2}{3}(4x - 3a)(a+x)^{\frac{3}{2}} + C$ . Hint. Put  $a + x = y$ , etc.

III.—*Trigonometrical functions* can often be integrated by these methods. For example, required the value of  $\int \tan x dx$ .

$$\int \tan x dx = \int \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} dx. \quad (2)$$

Let  $\cos x = u$ ,  $-\sin x dx = du$ . Since  $-\int du/u = -\log u$ , and  $\log 1 = 0$ , therefore,

$$\int \tan x dx = \log \frac{1}{\cos x} = \log \sec x + C.$$

Or, remembering that  $-d(\cos x) = \sin x \cdot dx$ , we can go straight

on without any substitution at all,

$$\int \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} dx = - \int \frac{d(\cos x)}{\cos x} = -\log \cos x, \text{ etc.}$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that  $\int \sin x \cdot \cos x \cdot dx = \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 x + C$ . Put  $\sin x = u$ .

(2) Show  $\int \cot x dx = \log \sin x + C$ . Hint.  $\cot x = \cos x / \sin x$ , etc.

(3) Show  $\int \sin x \cdot dx / \cos^2 x = \sec x + C$ . Hint. Put  $\cos x = u$ ; or go the short cut as in (2) above.

(4) Show that  $\int \cos x \cdot dx / \sin^2 x = -\operatorname{cosec} x + C$ .

(5) Show that  $\int e^{-x^2} x dx = -\frac{1}{2} \int e^{-x^2} \cdot 2x dx = +\frac{1}{2} \int e^{-x^2} d(x^2) = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-x^2} + C$ .

Some expressions require a little "humouring". Facility in this art can only be acquired by practice. A glance over the collection of formulæ on pages 611 to 612 will often give a clue. In this way, we find that  $\sin x = 2 \sin \frac{1}{2}x \cdot \cos \frac{1}{2}x$ . Hence integrate

$$\int \frac{dx}{\sin x}; \text{ i.e. } \int \frac{dx}{2 \sin \frac{1}{2}x \cdot \cos \frac{1}{2}x} \text{ or } \int \frac{\sec \frac{1}{2}x \cdot dx}{2 \sin \frac{1}{2}x}.$$

Divide the numerator and denominator by  $\cos \frac{1}{2}x$ , then, since  $1/\cos^2 \frac{1}{2}x = \sec^2 \frac{1}{2}x$ ; and  $d(\tan x) = \sec^2 x \cdot dx$ , page 49, (3),

$$\therefore \int \frac{dx}{\sin x} = \int \frac{\sec^2 \frac{1}{2}x \cdot d(\frac{1}{2}x)}{\tan \frac{1}{2}x} = \int \frac{d(\tan \frac{1}{2}x)}{\tan \frac{1}{2}x} = \log \tan \frac{x}{2} + C.$$

The substitutions may be difficult to one not familiar with trigonometry.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Remembering that  $\cos x = \sin(\frac{1}{2}\pi + x)$ , (9), page 611, show that  $\int dx / \cos x = \log \tan(\frac{1}{2}\pi + \frac{1}{2}x) + C$ . Hint. Proceed as in the illustration just worked out in the text.

(2) Integrate  $\int \frac{dx}{\sin x \cdot \cos x}$ . Hint, see (19), page 611;  $\cos x dx = d(\sin x)$ ; etc.

$$\therefore \int \frac{\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x}{\sin x \cos x} dx = \int \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} dx + \int \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} dx = \log \tan x + C.$$

(3) Integrate  $\int (a^2 - x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx$ . Put  $y = x/a$ ;  $\therefore x = ay$ ;  $\therefore dx = a dy$ ;  $\therefore \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} = a \sqrt{1 - y^2}$ ;

$$\therefore \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} = \int \frac{dy}{\sqrt{1 - y^2}} = \sin^{-1} y = \sin^{-1} \frac{x}{a} + C.$$

(4) Show  $\int \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}{x^4} dx = -\frac{(a^2 - x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3a^2 x^3} + C$ . Hint. Put  $x = \frac{1}{y}$ .

IV. *Expressions involving the square root of a quadratic binomial* can very often be readily solved by the aid of a lucky trigonometrical substitution. The form of the inverse trigonometrical functions (Table II.) will sometimes serve as a guide in the right choice. If the binomial has the forms :

$\sqrt{x^2 + 1}$ ; or,  $\sqrt{x^2 + a^2}$ ; try  $x = \tan \theta$ ; or,  $a \tan \theta$ ; or,  $\cot \theta$ . (3)

$\sqrt{1 - x^2}$ ; or,  $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$ ; try  $x = \sin \theta$ ; or,  $a \sin \theta$ ; or,  $\cos \theta$ . (4)

$\sqrt{x^2 - 1}$ ; or,  $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$ ; try  $x = \sec \theta$ ; or,  $a \sec \theta$ ; or,  $\operatorname{cosec} \theta$ , (5)

$\sqrt{a^2 - (x + b)^2}$ ; try  $x + b = a \sin \theta$ . . . (6)

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the value of  $\int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx$ . In accordance with the above rule (4), put  $x = a \sin \theta$ ,  $\therefore dx = a \cos \theta \cdot d\theta$ . Consequently, by substitution,

$$\int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx = a^2 \int \cos^2 \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{2} a^2 \int (1 + \cos 2\theta) d\theta = \frac{1}{2} a^2 \left( \theta + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta \right);$$

since  $2 \cos^2 \theta = 1 + \cos 2\theta$ , (31), page 612. But  $x = a \sin \theta$ ,  $\theta = \sin^{-1} x/a$ , and

$$\therefore \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta = \sin \theta \cdot \cos \theta = \sin \theta \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta} = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \cdot x/a^2,$$

$$\therefore \int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} a^2 \sin^{-1} x/a + \frac{1}{2} x \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} + C.$$

(2) The integration of  $\int x^2 \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \cdot dx$  arises in the study of molecular dynamics (Helmholtz's *Vorlesungen über theoretische Physik*, 2, 176, 1902). Rule (4). Put  $x = a \sin \theta$ ;  $\therefore x^2 = a^2 \sin^2 \theta$ ;  $dx = a \cos \theta \cdot d\theta$ ;  $\sqrt{a^2 - x^2} = a \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta}$ . Remembering that  $\cos \theta = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta}$ , and  $\sin 2x = 2 \sin x \cdot \cos x$ , (19) and (29), pages 611 and 612, we get the expression

$$\int x^2 \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \cdot dx = a^4 \int \sin^2 \theta \cdot \cos^2 \theta \cdot d\theta = \frac{1}{8} a^4 \int \sin^2 2\theta \cdot d(2\theta);$$

which will be integrated very shortly.

(3) Show  $\int \frac{dx}{(1-x)\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{1+x}{1-x}} + C$ . Put  $x = \cos \theta$ . Rule (4). If

the beginner has forgotten his "trig." he had better verify these steps from the collection of trigonometrical formulæ in Appendix I., page 611. The substitutions are here very ingenious, but difficult to work out *de novo*.

$$\begin{aligned} &= - \int \frac{\sin \theta d\theta}{(1 - \cos \theta) \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta}} = - \int \frac{d\theta}{1 - \cos \theta} = - \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d\theta}{\sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \theta} = - \int \operatorname{cosec}^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \cdot d\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right); \\ &= \cot \frac{1}{2} \theta = \frac{\cos \frac{1}{2} \theta}{\sin \frac{1}{2} \theta} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \cos^2 \frac{1}{2} \theta}{2 \sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \theta}} = \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos \theta}{1 - \cos \theta}} = \sqrt{\frac{1+x}{1-x}}. \end{aligned}$$

(4) Show  $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = \log(x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1}) + C$ . Put  $x = \tan \theta$ . Rule (3).

Given  $\tan(\frac{1}{2}\pi + \frac{1}{2}\theta) = \tan \theta + \sec \theta$ ;  $\therefore = x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1}$ ; see Ex. (1), preceding set.

(5) Show  $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} = \log(x + \sqrt{x^2 - 1}) + C$ . Put  $x = \sec \theta$ . Rule (5).

It may be here remarked that whenever there is a function of the second degree included under a root sign, such, for instance, as  $\sqrt{x^2 + px + q}$ , the substitution of

$$z = x + \sqrt{x^2 + px + q}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

will enable the integration to be performed. For the sake of ease, let us take the integral discussed in Ex. (4), above, for illustrative purposes. Obviously, on reference to (7),  $p = 0$ ,  $q = 1$ . Hence,



put  $z = x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1}$ ;

$$\therefore z^2 - 2zx + x^2 = x^2 + 1; \quad x = \frac{1}{2}(z^2 - 1)z^{-1};$$

$$\sqrt{x^2 + 1} = z - x = \frac{1}{2}(z^2 + 1)z^{-1}; \quad dx = \frac{1}{2}(z^2 + 1)z^{-2}dz;$$

$$\therefore \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = \int \frac{dz}{z} = \log z = \log(x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1}) + C.$$

V. *The integration of expressions containing fractional powers of  $x$  and of  $x^m(a + bx^n)^p dx$ .* Here  $m$ ,  $n$ , or  $p$  may be fractional. In this case the expression can be made rational by substituting  $x = z^r$ , or  $a + bx = z^r$ , where  $r$  is the least common multiple—L.C.M.—of the denominators of the several fractions.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Evaluate  $\int x^5(1 + x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} dx$ . Here the L.C.M. of the denominators of the fractional parts is 2. Put  $1 + x^2 = z^2$ ; then,  $x^2 = z^2 - 1$ ;  $\therefore x = \sqrt{1 + x^2}$ ;  $x \cdot dx = z \cdot dz$ . Substitute these values as required in the original expression, and

$$\int x^5(1 + x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} dx = \int (z^2 - 1)^2 z^2 dz = \int (z^6 - 2z^4 + z^2) dz = \frac{1}{7}z^7 - \frac{2}{5}z^5 + \frac{1}{3}z^3;$$

$$\therefore \int x^5(1 + x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} dx = \frac{1}{105}(1 + x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}\{15(1 + x^2)^2 - 42(1 + x^2) + 35\} + C.$$

(2) Evaluate  $\int x^{-4}(1 + x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx$ . Here again  $r = 2$ . Put  $1 + x^2 = z^2$ ;  $\therefore x^{-2} = z^2 - 1$ ;  $\therefore x^{-4} = (z^2 - 1)^2$ ;  $\therefore x = (z^2 - 1)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ ;  $dx = -(z^2 - 1)^{-\frac{3}{2}} z dz$ ;  $(1 + x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 1/z$ ;  $\therefore \int x^{-4}(1 + x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx = - \int (z^2 - 1) dz = -\frac{1}{3}z^3 + z$ ; and hence,

$$\int \frac{dx}{x^4(1 + x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{(2x^2 - 1)(1 + x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{8x^3} + C.$$

(3) Evaluate  $\int (1 + x^2)^{-1} x^{\frac{1}{2}} dx$ . Here, the L.C.M. is 6. Hence, put  $x = z^6$ . The final result is  $\frac{5}{8}x^{\frac{7}{6}} - \frac{5}{8}x^{\frac{5}{6}} + \frac{5}{8}x^{\frac{1}{6}} - \frac{5}{8}x^{-\frac{1}{6}} + 6 \tan^{-1} x^{\frac{1}{6}} + C$ . Hint. To integrate  $(1 + z^2)^{-1} z^5 dz$ ; first divide  $z^5$  by  $1 + z^2$ , and multiply through with  $dz$ .

(4) Show  $\int \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}} - x^{\frac{3}{2}}}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} dx = \frac{12}{15}x^{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{12}{13}x^{\frac{3}{2}} + C$ . The least common multiple

is 12. Hence, put  $x = z^{12}$ , etc.

I have no doubt that the reader is now in a position to understand why the study of differentiation must precede integration. "Common integration," said A. de Morgan, "is only the *memory of differentiation*, the different artifices by which integration is effected are changes, not from the known to the unknown, but from forms in which memory will not serve us to those in which it will" (*Trans. Cambridge Phil. Soc.*, 8, 188, 1844). The purpose of the substitution of a new variable is to transform the given integral into another integral which has been obtained by the differentia-

tion of a known function. The integration of any function therefore ultimately resolves itself into the direct or indirect comparison of the given integral with a tabulated list of the results of the differentiation of known functions. The reader will find it an advantage to keep such a list of known integrals at hand. A set of standard types is given in Table II., page 193, but this list should be extended by the student himself; or *A Short Table of Integrals* by B. O. Pierce, Boston, 1898, can be purchased.

When an expression cannot be rationalised or transformed into a known integral by the foregoing methods, we proceed to the so-called "methods of reduction" which will be discussed in the three succeeding sections. These may also furnish alternative methods for transforming some of the integrals which have just been discussed.

### § 73. Integration by Parts.

The differentiation of the product  $uv$ , furnishes

$$d(uv) = vdu + u dv.$$

By integrating both sides of this expression we obtain

$$uv = \int vdu + \int u dv.$$

Hence, by a transposition of terms, we have

$$\int u dv = uv - \int vdu + C. \quad \text{. . . . . (A)}$$

that is to say, the integral of  $u dv$  can be obtained provided  $vdu$  can be integrated. This procedure is called **integration by parts**. The geometrical interpretation will be apparent after **A** has been deduced from Fig. 7, page 41. Since equation **A** is used for reducing involved integrals to simpler forms, it may be called a **reduction formulæ**. More complex reduction formulæ will come later.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Evaluate  $\int x \log x dx$ . Put

$$\begin{array}{l} u = \log x, \quad \left| \quad dv = x \cdot dx; \right. \\ du = dx/x, \quad \left| \quad v = \frac{1}{2}x^2. \right. \end{array}$$

Substitute in **A**, and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int u \cdot dv &= \int x \log x \cdot dx = uv - \int v \cdot du, \\ &= \frac{1}{2}x^2 \log x - \int \frac{1}{2}x \cdot dx = \frac{1}{2}x^2 \log x - \frac{1}{4}x^2. \\ &= \frac{1}{2}x^2(\log x - \frac{1}{2}) + C. \end{aligned}$$

(2) Show that  $\int x \cos x \cdot dx = x \sin x + \cos x + C$ . Put

$$\begin{array}{l} u = x, \quad \left| \quad dv = \cos x \cdot dx; \right. \\ du = dx, \quad \left| \quad v = \sin x. \right. \end{array}$$

From **A**,  $\int x \cos x \cdot dx = x \sin x - \int \sin x \cdot dx$ ; etc.

(3) Evaluate  $\int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx$ , by "integration by parts". Put

$$\begin{array}{l} u = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}, \\ du = -x \cdot dx / \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}, \end{array} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} dv = dx; \\ v = x. \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx &= x \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} + \int \frac{x^2 dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} \\ &= x \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} + \int \frac{\{a^2 - (a^2 - x^2)\} dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} \\ &= x \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} + \int \frac{a^2 dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} - \int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Transpose the last term to the left-hand side :

$$2 \int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx = x \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} + a^2 \sin^{-1} x/a \text{ (page 193),}$$

$$\therefore \int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} a^2 \sin^{-1} x/a + \frac{1}{2} x \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} + C.$$

(4) Show that  $\int x e^x dx = (x - 1)e^x + C$ . Take  $u = x$ ;  $dv = e^x dx$ .

(5) Show  $\int x^2 e^x dx = (x^2 - 2x + 2)e^x + C$ . Take  $dv = e^x dx$  and use the result of the preceding example for  $v du$ .

(6) Show, integrating by parts, that  $\int \log x \cdot dx = x(\log x - 1) + C$ .

(7) Show that the result of integrating  $\int x^{-1} dx$  by parts is  $\int x^{-1} dx$  itself.

The selection of the proper values of  $u$  and  $v$  is to be determined by trial. A little practice will enable one to make the right selection instinctively. The rule is that the integral  $\int v \cdot du$  must be more easily integrated than the given expression. In dealing with Ex. (4), for instance, if we had taken  $u = e^x$ ,  $dv = x dx$ ,  $\int v \cdot du$  would have assumed the form  $\frac{1}{2} \int x^2 e^x dx$ , which is a more complex integral than the one to be reduced.

## § 74. Successive Integration by Parts.

A complex integral can often be reduced to one of the standard forms by the "method of integration by parts". By a repeated application of this method, complicated expressions may often be integrated, or else, if the expression cannot be integrated, the non-integrable part may be reduced to its simplest form. This procedure is sometimes called **integration by successive reduction**. See Ex. (5), above.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Evaluate  $\int x^2 \cos nx dx$ . Put

$$\begin{array}{l} u = x^2, \\ du = 2x \cdot dx, \end{array} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} dv = \{\cos nx \cdot d(nx)\}/n; \\ v = (\sin nx)/n. \end{array} \right.$$

Hence, on integration by parts,

$$\int x^2 \cos nx dx = \frac{x^2 \sin nx}{n} - \frac{2}{n} \int x \sin nx \cdot dx. \quad (1)$$

Now put

$$\begin{array}{l} u = x, \\ du = dx, \end{array} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} dv = \sin nx \cdot dx; \\ v = -(\cos nx)/n. \end{array} \right.$$

Hence,

$$\int x \sin nx \cdot dx = -\frac{x \cos nx}{n} - \int \frac{-\cos nx \cdot dx}{n} = -\frac{x \cos nx}{n} + \frac{\sin nx}{n^2}, \quad (2)$$

Now substitute (2) in (1) and we get,

$$\int x^2 \cos nx \cdot dx = \frac{x^2 \sin nx}{n} + \frac{2x \cos nx}{n^2} - \frac{2 \sin nx}{n^3} + C.$$

(2) In the last example, we made the integral  $\int x^2 \cos nx \cdot dx$  depend on that of  $x \sin nx \cdot dx$ , and this, in turn, on that of  $-\cos nx \cdot d(nx)$ , thus reducing the given integral to a known standard form. The integral  $\int x^4 \cos x \cdot dx$  is a little more complex. Put

$$\begin{aligned} u &= x^4, & dv &= \cos x dx; \\ du &= 4x^3 dx, & v &= \sin x. \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \int x^4 \cos x \cdot dx = x^4 \sin x - 4 \int x^3 \sin x \cdot dx.$$

In a similar way,

$$4 \int x^3 \sin x \cdot dx = 4x^3 \cos x - 3 \cdot 4 \int x^2 \cos x \cdot dx.$$

Similarly,

$$3 \cdot 4 \int x^2 \cos x \cdot dx = 3 \cdot 4 \cdot x^2 \sin x + 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \int x \sin x \cdot dx,$$

and finally,

$$2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \int x \sin x dx = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4x \cos x + 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \sin x.$$

All these values must be collected together, as in the first example. In this way, the integral is reduced, by successive steps, to one of simpler form. The integral  $\int x^4 \cos x \cdot dx$  was made to depend on that of  $x^3 \sin x \cdot dx$ , this, in turn, on that of  $x^2 \cos x \cdot dx$ , and so on until we finally got  $\int \cos x \cdot dx$ , a well-known standard form.

(3) It is an advantage to have two separate sheets of paper in working through these examples; on one work as in the preceding examples and on the other enter the results as in the next example. Show that

$$\begin{aligned} \int x^3 e^x dx &= x^3 e^x - 3 \int x^2 e^x dx; \\ &= x^3 e^x - 3(x^2 e^x - 2 \int x e^x dx); \\ &= x^3 e^x - 3x^2 e^x + 2 \cdot 3(x e^x - \int e^x dx); \\ &= (x^3 - 3x^2 + 6x - 6)e^x + C. \end{aligned}$$

It is also interesting to notice that we sometimes obtain different results with different substitutions. For instance, we get either

$$\int x^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^x \cdot dx = \frac{e^x}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{2x} + \frac{3}{(2x)^2} + \frac{3 \cdot 5}{(2x)^3} + \dots \right\} + C_1; \quad (3)$$

$$\int x^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^x \cdot dx = \frac{e^x}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} \left\{ 2x - \frac{(2x)^2}{3} + \frac{(2x)^3}{3 \cdot 5} - \dots \right\} + C_2, \quad (4)$$

according as we take  $u = x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , etc., or,  $u = e^x$ . In the last series, (4), the numerator and denominator of each term has been multiplied by  $x^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Differences of this kind can generally be traced to differences in the range of the variable, or to differences in the value of the integration constants. Another example occurs during the integration of  $(1-x)^{-2} dx$ . In one case,

$$\int (1-x)^{-2} dx = - \int (1-x)^{-2} d(1-x) = (1-x)^{-1} + C_1; \quad (5)$$

but if we substitute  $x = z^{-1}$  before integration, then

$$\int (1-x)^{-2} dx = - \int (z-1)^{-2} dz = (z-1)^{-1} = x(1-x)^{-1} + C_2. \quad (6)$$

The two solutions only differ by the constant “-1”. By adding -1 to (5), (6) is obtained.  $C_1$  is not therefore equal to  $C_2$ ,  $C_1 = C_2 - 1$ .

### § 75. Reduction Formulæ (for reference).

We found it convenient, on page 205, to refer certain integrals to a “standard formula” **A**; and on page 206 reduced complex integrals to known integrals by a repeated application of the same formula, namely, Ex. (1), page 206, etc. Such a formula is called a **reduction formula**. The following are standard reduction formulæ convenient for the integration of binomial integrals of the type:—

$$\int x^m (a + bx^n)^p dx. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

These expressions can always be integrated if  $(m+1)/n$  be a positive integer. Four cases present themselves according as  $m$ , or  $p$  are positive or negative.

#### I.— $m$ is positive.

The integral  $\int x^m (a + bx^n)^p dx$ , may be made to depend on that of  $\int x^{m-n} (a + bx^n)^{p+1} dx$ , through the following reduction formula. The integral (1) is equal to

$$\frac{x^{m-n+1} (a + bx^n)^{p+1}}{b(m+np+1)} - \frac{a(m-n+1)}{b(m+np+1)} \int x^{m-n} (a + bx^n)^p dx. \quad (\text{B})$$

when  $m$  is a positive integer. This formula may be applied successively until the factor outside the brackets, under the integral sign, is less than  $n$ . Then proceed as on page 204. **B** can always be integrated if  $(m-n+1)/n$  is a positive integer. See Ex. (7), below.

#### II.— $m$ is negative.

In **B**,  $m$  must be the positive, otherwise the index will increase, instead of diminish, by a repeated application of the formula. When  $m$  is negative, it can be shown that the integral (1) is equal to

$$\frac{x^{m+1} (a + bx^n)^{p+1}}{a(m+1)} - \frac{b(np+m+n+1)}{a(m+1)} \int x^{m+n} (a + bx^n)^p dx, \quad (\text{C})$$

where  $m$  is negative. This formula diminishes  $m$  by the number of units in  $n$ . If  $np + m + n + 1 = 0$ , the part to be integrated will disappear, and the integration will be complete.  $C$  can always be integrated if  $(m + n + 1)/n$  is a positive integer. See Ex. (7), below.

III.— $p$  is positive.

Another useful formula diminishes the exponent of the bracketed term, so that the integral (1) is equal to

$$\frac{x^{m+1}(a + bx^n)^p}{m + np + 1} + \frac{anp}{m + np + 1} \int x^m(a + bx^n)^{p-1} dx, \quad (D)$$

where  $p$  is positive. By a repeated application of this formula the exponent of the binomial, if positive, may be reduced to a positive or negative fraction less than unity.

IV.— $p$  is negative.

If  $p$  is negative, the integral (1) is equal to

$$- \frac{x^{m+1}(a + bx^n)^{p+1}}{an(p+1)} + \frac{(np + m + n + 1)}{an(p+1)} \int x^m(a + bx^n)^{p+1} dx. \quad (E)$$

Formulae **B**, **C**, **D**, **E** have been deduced from (1), page 208, by the method of integration by parts. Perhaps the student can do this for himself. The reader will notice that formula **B** *decreases* (algebraically) the exponent of the monomial factor from  $m$  to  $m - n + 1$ , while **C** *increases* the exponent of the same factor from  $m$  to  $m + 1$ . Formula **D** *decreases* the exponent of the binomial factor from  $p$  to  $p - 1$ , while **E** *increases* the exponent of the binomial factor from  $p$  to  $p + 1$ . **B** and **D** fail when  $np + m + 1 = 0$ ; **C** fails when  $m + 1 = 0$ ; **E** fails when  $p + 1 = 0$ . When **B**, **C**, and **D** fail use **V**, page 204; if **E** fails  $p = -1$  and the preceding methods apply.

EXAMPLES.—Evaluate the following integrals:—

(1)  $\int \sqrt{a+x^2} dx$ . Hints. Use **D**. Put  $m = 0$ ,  $b = 1$ ,  $n = 2$ ,  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ . Ansr.  $\frac{1}{2}[x\sqrt{a+x^2} + a \log \{x + \sqrt{a+x^2}\}] + C$ . See bottom of page 206.

(2)  $\int x^4 dx / \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$ . Hints. Put  $m = 4$ ,  $b = -1$ ,  $n = 2$ ,  $p = -\frac{1}{2}$ . Use **B** twice. Ansr.  $\frac{1}{8}\{3a^4 \sin^{-1} x/a - x(2x^2 + 3a^2) \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}\} + C$ .

(3)  $\int \sqrt{1-x^2} x^3 dx$ . Hint. Use **B**. Ansr.  $-\frac{1}{8}(x^2 + 2) \sqrt{1-x^2} + C$ .

(4)  $\int \sqrt{a+bx^2}^{-3} dx$ . Ansr.  $x(a+bx^2)^{-1/2}/a + C$  Use **E**.

(5)  $\int \frac{dx}{x^2 \sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}$ , i.e.  $\int x^{-2} (-a^2 + x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx$ . Hint. Use **C**.  $m = -3$ ,  $b = 1$ ,  $n = 2$ ,  $p = -\frac{1}{2}$ . Ansr.  $\frac{\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}{2a^2 x^2} + \frac{1}{2a^2} \sec^{-1} \frac{x}{a}$ .

(6) Renyard (*Ann. Chim. Phys.*, [4], 19, 272, 1870), in working out a theory of electro-dynamic action, integrated  $\int (a^2 + x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx$ . Hence  $m=0$ ,  $n=2$ ,  $b=1$ ,  $a=a^2$ ,  $p=-\frac{1}{2}$ . Use E. Ansr.  $x(a^2 + x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}/a^2 + C$ .

(7) To show that it is possible to integrate the expression

$$\int (a^{n-1} - x^{n-1})^{-\frac{1}{2}} x^{\frac{1}{2}(n-1)} dx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

when  $n = \dots \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2} - 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \dots$ ; and when  $n = \dots \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0, 2, \frac{3}{2}, \dots$ , substitute  $z = a + bx^n$  in (1). We get

$$n^{-1} b^{-\frac{m+1}{n}} \int (z - a)^{\frac{m+1}{n}-1} z^p dz. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

If  $(m+1)/n$  be a positive integer, the expression in brackets can be expanded by the binomial theorem, and integrated in the usual manner. By comparing (2) with (3), it is easy to see that (2) can be integrated when

$$\frac{m+1}{n} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(n-1) + 1}{n-1} = \frac{1}{n-1} + \frac{1}{2}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

is a positive integer. From B and C, the integral (2) depends upon the integral

$$\int x^{m-n}(a + bx^n)^p dx; \text{ or, } \int x^{m+n}(a + bx^n)^p dx. \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

By the substitution of  $m-n$ , and  $m+n$  respectively for  $m$  in  $(m+1)/n$ , and comparison with (2), we find that (2) can be integrated when

$$\frac{m-n+1}{n} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(n-1) - (n-1) + 1}{n-1} = \frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{1}{2}, \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

is a positive integer; or else when

$$\frac{m+n+1}{n} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(n-1) + (n-1) + 1}{n-1} = \frac{1}{n-1} + \frac{3}{2}, \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

is a positive integer. But (7) can be reduced to either (4) or (6) by subtracting unity, and since integration by parts can be performed a finite number of times, we have the condition that

$$\frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{1}{2} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

be a positive or negative integer, or zero, in order that (2) may be integrated; in other words, we must have

$$\frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{1}{2} = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots; = -1, -2, -3, \dots \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

Similarly, by substituting  $x = z^{-1}$ , in (1), we obtain  $-z^{-np-m-2}(az^n + b)^p dz$ . As with (3) and (4), this can be integrated when

$$\frac{m+1}{n} = \frac{-np - m - 2 + 1}{n} = -\frac{m+1}{n} - p \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

is a positive integer. From D and E, and with the method used in deducing (8), we can extend this to cases where

$$-\frac{m+1}{n} - (p \pm 1) = -\frac{\frac{1}{2}(n-1) + 1}{n+1} - \left(-\frac{1}{2} \pm 1\right); \quad . \quad (11)$$

or, where  $-(n-1)^{-1}$  is a positive or negative integer. Equating this to 1, 2, 3, ...; and to -1, -2, -3, ... we get, with (9), the desired values of  $n$ . Notice that we have not proved that these are the only values of  $n$  which will allow (2) to be integrated.

The remainder of this section may be omitted until required. If  $n$  be a positive integer, we can integrate  $\int \sin^n x \cdot dx$  by putting,

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \sin^{n-1} x & v &= -\cos x. \\ du &= (n-1) \sin^{n-2} x \cos x \cdot dx & dv &= \sin x \cdot dx. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \int \sin^n x \cdot dx &= -\sin^{n-1} x \cdot \cos x + (n-1) \int \sin^{n-2} x \cdot \cos^2 x \cdot dx; \\ &= -\sin^{n-1} x \cdot \cos x + (n-1) \int \sin^{n-2} x (1 - \sin^2 x) dx; \\ &= -\sin^{n-1} x \cdot \cos x + (n-1) \int \sin^{n-2} x \cdot dx - (n-1) \int \sin^n x \cdot dx. \end{aligned}$$

Transpose the last term to the first member; combine, and divide by  $n$ . The result is

$$\int \sin^n x \cdot dx = -\frac{\sin^{n-1} x \cdot \cos x}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} \int \sin^{n-2} x \cdot dx. \quad (12)$$

Integrating  $\int \cos^n x \cdot dx$  by parts, by putting  $u = \cos^{n-1} x$ ;  $dv = \cos x \cdot dx$ , we get

$$\int \cos^n x \cdot dx = \frac{\sin x \cdot \cos^{n-1} x}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n} \int \cos^{n-2} x \cdot dx. \quad (13)$$

Remembering that  $\cos \frac{1}{2}\pi = \cos 90^\circ = 0$ ; and that  $\sin 0^\circ = 0$ , we can proceed further

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^n x \cdot dx = \frac{n-1}{n} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^{n-2} x \cdot dx.$$

Now treat  $n-2$  the same as if it were a single integer  $n$ .

$$\therefore \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^{n-2} x \cdot dx = \frac{n-3}{n-2} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^{n-4} x \cdot dx.$$

Combine the last two equations, and repeat the reduction. Thus we get finally

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^n x dx = \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots 3 \cdot 1}{n(n-2)\dots 4 \cdot 2} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} dx = \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots 3 \cdot 1}{n(n-2)\dots 4 \cdot 2} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}. \quad (\text{F})$$

when  $n$  is even

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^n x dx = \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots 2}{n(n-2)\dots 3} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin x dx = \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots 2}{n(n-2)\dots 3}, \quad (\text{G})$$

when  $n$  is odd. If we take the cosine integral (3) above, and work in the same way, we get

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \cos^n x dx = \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots 3 \cdot 1}{n(n-2)\dots 4 \cdot 2} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}; \quad (\text{H})$$

if  $n$  is even, and

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \cos^n x dx = \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots 4 \cdot 2}{n(n-2)\dots 5 \cdot 3}, \quad (\text{I})$$

if  $n$  is odd. Test this by actual integration and by substituting  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  Note the resemblance between H with F, and I



with **G**. The last four reduction formulæ are rather important in physical work. They can be employed to reduce  $\int \cos^n x dx$  or  $\int \sin^n x dx$  to an index unity, or  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ .

If  $n$  is greater than unity, we can show that

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^m x \cdot \cos^n x dx = \frac{n-1}{m+n} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^m x \cdot \cos^{n-2} x dx; \quad (\text{J})$$

by integration by parts, using  $u = \sin^{m-1} x$ ,  $dv = \cos^n x \cdot d(\cos x)$ . If  $m$  is greater than unity, it also follows that

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^m x \cdot \cos^n x dx = \frac{m-1}{m+n} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^{m-2} x \cdot \cos^n x dx. \quad (\text{K})$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show  $\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin x \cdot \cos x dx = \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^2 x \cdot \cos x dx = \frac{1}{3}$ .

$$(2) \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^6 x dx = \frac{5}{32}\pi; \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^3 \theta \cdot d\theta = \frac{2}{3}.$$

$$(3) \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin x \cdot \cos^2 x dx = \frac{1}{3}; \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^2 x \cdot \cos^2 x dx = \frac{\pi}{16}.$$

## § 76. Integration by Resolution into Partial Fractions.

Fractions containing higher powers of  $x$  in the numerator than in the denominator may be reduced to a whole number and a fractional part. Thus, by division,

$$\int \frac{x^5 \cdot dx}{x^2 + 1} = \int \left( x^3 - x + \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} \right) dx.$$

The integral part may be differentiated by the usual methods, but the fractional part must often be resolved into the sum of a number of fractions with simpler denominators, before integration can be performed.

We know that  $\frac{4}{9}$  may be represented as the sum of two other fractions, namely  $\frac{1}{9}$  and  $\frac{1}{3}$ , such that  $\frac{4}{9} = \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{3}$ . Each of these parts is called a **partial fraction**. If the numerator is a compound quantity and the denominator simple, the partial fractions may be deduced, at once, by assigning to each numerator its own denominator and reducing the result to its lowest terms. *E.g.*,

$$\frac{x^2 + x + 1}{x^3} = \frac{x^2}{x^3} + \frac{x}{x^3} + \frac{1}{x^3} = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x^3}.$$

When the denominator is a compound quantity, say  $x^2 - x$ , it is obvious, from the way in which the addition of fractions is performed, that the denominator is some multiple of the denominator of the partial fractions and contains no other factors. We there-

fore expect the denominators of the partial fractions to be factors of the given denominator. Of course, this latter may have been reduced after the addition of the partial fractions, but, in practice, we proceed as if it had not been so treated.

To reduce a fraction to its partial fractions, the denominator must first be split into its factors, thus:  $x^2 - x$  is the product of the two factors:  $x$ , and  $x - 1$ . Then assume each factor to be the denominator of a partial fraction, and assign a certain indeterminate quantity to each numerator. These quantities may, or may not, be independent of  $x$ . The procedure will be evident from the following examples. There are four cases to be considered.

**Case i.** — *The denominator can be resolved into real unequal factors of the type :*

$$\frac{1}{(a-x)(b-x)} \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (1)$$

By resolution into partial fractions, (1) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{(a-x)(b-x)} &= \frac{A}{a-x} + \frac{B}{b-x} = \frac{A(b-x) + B(a-x)}{(a-x)(b-x)}, \\ \therefore \frac{1}{(a-x)(b-x)} &= \frac{Ab + Ba - Ax - Bx}{(a-x)(b-x)}. \end{aligned}$$

We now assume—and it can be proved if necessary—that the numerators on the two sides of this last equation are identical,<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> An identical equation is one in which the two sides of the equation are either identical, or can be made identical by reducing them to their simplest terms. *E.g.*,  
 $ax^2 + bx + c = ax^2 + bx + c$ ;  $(a-x)/(a-x)^2 = 1/(a-x)$ ,  
 or, in general terms,

$$a + bx + cx^2 + \dots = a' + b'x + c'x^2 + \dots$$

An identical equation is satisfied by each or any value that may be assigned to the variable it contains. The coefficients of like powers of  $x$ , in the two numbers, are also equal to each other. Hence, if  $x=0$ ,  $a=a'$ . We can remove, therefore,  $a$  and  $a'$  from the general equation. After the removal of  $a$  and  $a'$ , divide by  $x$  and put  $x=0$ , hence  $b=b'$ ; similarly,  $c=c'$ , etc. For fuller details, see any elementary text-book on algebra. The symbol " $\equiv$ " is frequently used in place of " $=$ " when it is desired to emphasize the fact that we are dealing with identities, not equations of condition. While an *identical equation* is satisfied by *any* value we may choose to assign to the variable it contains, an *equation of condition* is only satisfied by *particular* values of the variable. As long as this distinction is borne in mind, we may follow customary usage and write " $=$ " when " $\equiv$ " is intended. For " $\equiv$ " we may read, "may be transformed into... whatever value the variable  $x$  may assume"; while for " $=$ ," we must read, "is equal to... when the variable  $x$  satisfies some *special* condition or assumes some particular value".

$$Ab + Ba - Ax - Bx = 1.$$

Pick out the coefficients of like powers of  $x$ , so as to build up a series of equations from which  $A$  and  $B$  can be determined. For example,

$$Ab + Ba = 1; x(A + B) = 0; \therefore A + B = 0; \therefore A = -B;$$

$$\therefore A = \frac{1}{b-a}, \therefore B = -\frac{1}{b-a}.$$

Substitute these values of  $A$  and  $B$  in (1).

$$\frac{1}{(a-x)(b-x)} = \frac{1}{b-a} \cdot \frac{1}{a-x} - \frac{1}{b-a} \cdot \frac{1}{b-x}. \quad (2)$$

AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD, much quicker than the above, is indicated in the following example: Find the partial fractions of the function in example (3) below.

$$\frac{1}{(a-x)(b-x)(c-x)} = \frac{A}{a-x} + \frac{B}{b-x} + \frac{C}{c-x} \dots$$

Consequently,

$$(b-x)(c-x)A + (a-x)(c-x)B + (a-x)(b-x)C = 1.$$

This identical equation is true for all values of  $x$ , it is, therefore, true

$$\text{when } x = a, \therefore (b-a)(c-a)A = 1; \therefore A = \frac{1}{(b-a)(c-a)};$$

$$\text{when } x = b, \therefore (c-b)(a-b)B = 1; \therefore B = \frac{1}{(c-b)(a-b)};$$

$$\text{when } x = c, \therefore (a-c)(b-c)C = 1; \therefore C = \frac{1}{(a-c)(b-c)}.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) In studying bimolecular reactions we meet with

$$\int \frac{dx}{(a-x)(b-x)} = \int \frac{dx}{(b-a)(a-x)} - \int \frac{dx}{(b-a)(b-x)} = \frac{1}{b-a} \cdot \log \frac{b-x}{a-x} + C.$$

(2) J. J. Thomson's formula for the rate of production of ions by the Röntgen rays is  $dx/dt = q - ax^2$ . Remembering that  $a - x^2 = (\sqrt{a} - x)(\sqrt{a} + x)$ ; show that if we put  $q/a = b^2$ , for the sake of brevity, then

$$2b = \frac{1}{t} \log_e \frac{b+x}{b-x} + C.$$

(3) Evaluate  $\int \frac{dx}{(a-x)(b-x)(c-x)}$ . Keep your answer for use later on.

(4) Show that  $\int \frac{dx}{a^2 - b^2x^2} = \frac{1}{2ab} \log \frac{a+bx}{a-bx} + C$ .

(5) If the velocity of the reaction between bromic and hydrobromic acids is represented by the equation:  $dx/dt = k(na+x)(a-x)$ , then show that

$$k = \frac{1}{(n+1)at} \cdot \log \frac{na+x}{a-x} + C.$$

(6) If  $\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a+x)(na-x)$ ; show that  $k = \frac{2.3026}{(n+1)at} \cdot \log_{10} \frac{a+x}{na-x}$ .

(7) S. Arrhenius, in studying the hydrolysis of ethyl acetate, employed the integral.

$$\int \frac{1+mx-nx^2}{(a-x)(b-x)} dx; \therefore = \int \left[ -n + \frac{1+nab+\{m-n(a+b)\}x}{(a-x)(b-x)} \right] dx.$$

Substitute  $p = 1+nab$ ;  $q = m-n(a+b)$ , then, by the method of partial fractions, show that

$$\int \frac{p+qx}{(a-x)(b-x)} dx = \frac{p+aq}{a-b} \log(a-x) - \frac{p+bq}{a-b} \log(b-x) + C.$$

(8) Integrals like  $\int \frac{dx}{x(a-x)} = \frac{1}{a} \log \frac{x}{a-x} + C$  are very common in chemical dynamics—autocatalysis.

(9) H. Danneel (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 33, 415, 1900) has the integral

$$kt = \int \frac{x dx}{a^2 - x^2}; \therefore \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{a^2 - x_1^2}{a^2 - x_2^2} = k(t_2 - t_1)$$

if  $x = x_1$ , when  $t = t_1$ ; and  $x = x_2$ , when  $t = t_2$ .

(10) R. B. Warder's equation for the velocity of the reaction between chloroacetic acid and ethyl alcohol is

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ak\{1 - (1+b)y\}\{1 - (1-b)y\}. \therefore \log \frac{1 - (1-b)y}{1 - (1+b)y} = 2abkt.$$

**Case ii.**—The denominator can be resolved into real factors some of which are equal. Type:

$$\frac{1}{(a-x)^2(b-x)}.$$

The preceding method cannot be used here because, if we put

$$\frac{1}{(a-x)^2(b-x)} = \frac{A}{a-x} + \frac{B}{a-x} + \frac{C}{b-x} = \frac{A+B}{a-x} + \frac{C}{b-x},$$

$A+B$  must be regarded as a single constant. Reduce as before and pick out coefficients of like powers of  $x$ . We thus get three independent equations containing two unknowns. The values of  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  cannot, therefore, be determined by this method. To overcome the difficulty, assume that

$$\frac{1}{(a-x)^2(b-x)} = \frac{A}{(a-x)^2} + \frac{B}{a-x} + \frac{C}{b-x}$$

Multiply out and proceed as before, the final result is that

$$A = \frac{1}{b-a}; \quad B = -\frac{1}{b-a}; \quad C = -\frac{1}{(b-a)^2}$$

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) H. Goldschmidt represents the velocity of the chemical reaction between hydrochloric acid and ethyl alcohol, by the relation  $dx/dt = k(a-x)(b-x)^2$ . Hence,

$$k \int dt = \int \frac{dx}{(a-x)(b-x)^2} = \frac{1}{(a-b)^2} \left\{ \int \frac{(a-b)dx}{(b-x)^2} - \int \frac{dx}{b-x} + \int \frac{dx}{a-x} \right\}.$$

Integrate. To find a value for  $C$ , put  $x = 0$  when  $t = 0$ . The final result is

$$kt(a-b)^2 = \frac{(a-b)x}{b(b-x)} + \log \frac{a(b-x)}{b(a-x)}.$$

$$(2) \text{ Show } \int \frac{dx}{x^2(a+bx)} = \frac{b}{a^2} \log \frac{a+bx}{a} - \frac{1}{ax} + C.$$

$$(3) \text{ Show } \int \frac{dx}{(x-1)^2(x+1)} = \frac{1}{4} \log \frac{x+1}{x-1} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{x-1} + C. \quad \text{An expression}$$

used by W. Meyerhofer, *Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 2, 585, 1888.

$$(4) \text{ Show } \int \frac{x dx}{(a-x)(b-x)^2} = \frac{1}{b(a-b)^2} \left\{ a \log \frac{a(b-x)}{b(a-x)} + \frac{x(a-b)}{(b-x)} \right\},$$

for values of  $x$  from  $x = a$  to  $x = 0$ . (H. Kühl, *Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 44, 385, 1903.)

(5) P. Henry (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 10, 96, 1892) in studying the phenomenon of autocatalysis employed the expression

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a-x) (\sqrt{4K(a-x) + K^2} - K).$$

To integrate, put  $4K(a-x) + K^2 = z^2$ ;  $\therefore a-x = (z^2 - K^2)/4K$ ;  $dx = -z \cdot dz/2K$ .

$$\therefore \frac{z \cdot dz}{(z-K)(z^2-K^2)} = -\frac{k dt}{2}; \therefore \frac{1}{4K} \log \frac{z-K}{z+K} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{z-K} = -\frac{kt}{2} + C.$$

Now put  $P = \sqrt{4K(a-x) + K^2}$ ;  $Q = \sqrt{4Ka + K^2}$ , and show that if  $x = 0$  when  $t = 0$ ,

$$\frac{1}{t} \left\{ \frac{Q-P}{(P-K)(Q-K)} + \frac{1}{2K} \log \frac{(P+K)(Q-K)}{(P-K)(Q+K)} \right\} = k.$$

For a more complex example see T. S. Price, *Journ. Chem. Soc.*, 79, 314, 1901.

(6) J. W. Walker and W. Judson's equation for the velocity of the chemical reaction between hydrobromic and bromic acids, is

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a-x)^4. \therefore 3k = \frac{1}{t} \left\{ \frac{1}{(a-x)^3} - \frac{1}{a^3} \right\}.$$

The reader is probably aware of the fact that he can always prove whether his integration is correct or not, by differentiating his answer. If he gets the original integral the result is correct.

**Case iii.**—The denominator can be resolved into imaginary factors all unequal. Type:

$$\frac{1}{(a^2 + x^2)(b+x)}.$$

Since imaginary roots always occur in pairs (page 353), the product of each pair of imaginary factors will give a product of the form,  $x^2 + a^2$ . Instead of assigning a separate partial fraction to each imaginary factor, we assume, for each pair of imaginary

factors, a partial fraction of the form :

$$\frac{Ax + B}{a^2 + x^2}.$$

Hence we must write

$$\frac{1}{(a^2 + x^2)(b + x)} = \frac{Ax + B}{a^2 + x^2} + \frac{C}{b + x}.$$

Now get (13), page 193, fixed upon your mind.

EXAMPLES.—(1)  $\int \frac{dx}{(x-1)^2(x^2+1)} = \int \left( \frac{A}{(x-1)^2} + \frac{B}{x-1} + \frac{Cx+D}{x^2+1} \right) dx$ . Here  $A = \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $B = -\frac{1}{2}$ ;  $C = \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $D = 0$ . Ansr  $\frac{1}{2} \log(x^2+1)(x-1)^{-2} - \frac{1}{2}(x-1)^{-1} + C$ .

(2) Show  $\int \frac{dx}{1-x^4} = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} x + \frac{1}{4} \log \frac{1+x}{1-x} + C$ .

(3) H. Danneel (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 33, 415, 1900) used a similar expression in his study of the "Free Energy of Chemical Reactions". Thus, he has

$$\frac{x^2 dx}{a^4 - x^4} = k dt. \quad \therefore 2k(t_2 - t_1) = \frac{1}{a} \left( \tan^{-1} \frac{x_2}{a} - \tan^{-1} \frac{x_1}{a} \right) + \frac{1}{2a} \log \frac{(x_2 - a)(x_1 + a)}{(x_2 + a)(x_1 - a)},$$

in an experiment where  $x = x_1$  when  $t = t_1$ ; and  $x = x_2$  when  $t = t_2$ .

(4) The integral  $\int \frac{dx}{(a - bx)^{2/3}(c - x)}$  has to be solved when the rate of dissolution of a spheroidal solid is under discussion. Put  $a - bx = z^3$ ;  $a - bc = n^3$ ;  $\therefore x = (a - z^3)/b$ ;  $dx = -3z^2 dz/b$ . Substitute these results in the given integral, and we get

$$3 \int \frac{dz}{n^3 - z^3} = 3 \int \frac{dz}{(n - z)(n^2 + nz + z^2)} = \frac{1}{n^2} \int \frac{dz}{n - z} + \frac{1}{n^2} \int \frac{(z + 2n) dz}{n^2 + nz + z^2};$$

by resolution into partial fractions. Let me make a digression. Obviously, we may write

$$\int \frac{(y + 2b) dy}{a + by + y^2} = \frac{1}{2} \int \left( \frac{2y + b}{a + by + y^2} + \frac{3b}{a + by + y^2} \right) dy.$$

The numerator of the first fraction on the right is the differential coefficient of the denominator; and hence, its integral is  $\frac{1}{2} \log(a + by + y^2)$ ; the integral of the second term of the right member is got by the addition and subtraction of  $\frac{1}{2}b^2$  in the denominator. Hence,

$$\int \frac{dy}{a + by + y^2} = \int \frac{dy}{(a - \frac{1}{4}b^2) + (y + \frac{1}{2}b)^2} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{4a - b^2}} \tan^{-1} \frac{2y + b}{\sqrt{4a - b^2}}.$$

Returning to the original problem, we see at once that

$$3 \int \frac{dz}{n^3 - z^3} = \frac{1}{n^2} \left( \log \frac{\sqrt{n^2 + nz + z^2}}{n - z} \right) + \sqrt{3} \tan^{-1} \frac{2z + n}{\sqrt{3}n} + C.$$

Now restore the original values,  $z = (a - bx)^{\frac{1}{3}}$ , and  $n = (a - bc)^{\frac{1}{3}}$ .

In most of the examples which I have selected to illustrate my text, the denominator of the integral has been split up into factors so

as not to divert the student's attention from the point at issue. If the student feels weak on this subject a couple of hours' drilling with W. T. Knight's booklet on *Algebraic Factors*, London, 1888, will probably put things right.

**Case iv.**—*The denominator can be resolved into imaginary factors, some of which are equal to one another. Type :*

$$\frac{1}{(a^2 + x^2)^2(b + x)}.$$

Combining the preceding results,

$$\frac{1}{(a^2 + x^2)^2(b + x)} = \frac{Ax + B}{(a^2 + x^2)^2} + \frac{Cx + D}{a^2 + x^2} + \frac{E}{b + x}.$$

In this expression, there are just sufficient equations to determine the complex system of partial fractions, by equating the coefficients of like powers of  $x$ . The integration of many of the resulting expressions usually requires the aid of one of the reduction formulæ (§ 76).

**EXAMPLE.** — Prove  $\int \frac{(x^3 + x - 1)dx}{(x^2 + 1)^2} = \int \frac{x dx}{x^2 + 1} - \int \frac{dx}{(x^2 + 1)^2}.$

Integrate. Ansr.  $\frac{1}{2} \log(x^2 + 1) - \frac{1}{2}x/(1 + x^2) + \frac{1}{2}\tan^{-1}x + C$ . Use formula E, page 209, for evaluating the last term.

Consequently, if the denominator of any fractional differential can be resolved into factors, the differential can be integrated by one or other of these processes. The remainder of this chapter will be mainly taken up with practical illustrations of integration processes. A number of geometrical applications will also be given because the accompanying figures are so useful in helping one to form a mental picture of the operation in hand.

## § 77. The Velocity of Chemical Reactions.

The time occupied by a chemical reaction is dependent, among other things, on the nature and concentration of the reacting substances, the presence of impurities, and on the temperature. With some reactions these several factors can be so controlled, that measurements of the velocity of the reaction agree with theoretical results. But a great number of chemical reactions have hitherto defied all attempts to reduce them to order. For instance, the mutual action of hydriodic acid and bromic acid ; of hydrogen and oxygen ; of carbon and oxygen ; and the oxidation of phosphorus.

The magnitude of the disturbing effects of secondary and catalytic actions obscures the mechanism of such reactions. In these cases more extended investigations are required to make clear what actually takes place in the reacting system.

Chemical reactions are classified into uni- or mono-molecular, bi-molecular, ter- or tri-molecular, and quadri-molecular reactions according to the number of molecules which are supposed to take part in the reaction. Uni-, bi-, ter-, ... molecular reactions are often called reactions of the first, second, third, ... order.

*I.—Reactions of the first order.* Let  $a$  be the concentration of the reacting molecules at the beginning of the action when the time  $t = 0$ . The concentration, after the lapse of an interval of time  $t$ , is, therefore,  $a - x$ , where  $x$  denotes the amount of substance transformed during that time. Let  $dx$  denote the amount of substance formed in the time  $dt$ . The velocity of the reaction, at any moment, is proportional to the concentration of the reacting substance—**Wilhelmy's law**—hence we have

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a - x); \text{ or, } k = \frac{1}{t} \cdot \log \frac{a}{a - x}; \quad (1)$$

or, what is the same thing,  $x = a(1 - e^{-kt})$ , where  $k$  is a constant depending on the nature of the reacting system. Reactions which proceed according to this equation are said to be reactions of the first order.

*II.—Reactions of the second order.* Let  $a$  and  $b$  respectively denote the concentration of two different substances, say, in such a reacting system as occurs when acetic acid acts on alcohol, or bromine on fumaric acid, then, according to the law of mass action, the velocity of the reaction at any moment is proportional to the product of concentration of the reacting substances. For every gram molecule of acetic acid transformed, the same amount of alcohol must also disappear. When the system contains  $a - x$  gram molecules of acetic acid it must also contain  $b - x$  gram molecules of alcohol. Hence

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a - x)(b - x); \therefore k = \frac{1}{t} \cdot \frac{1}{a - b} \log \frac{(a - x)b}{(b - x)a}. \quad (2)$$

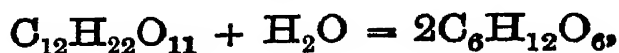
Reactions which progress according to this equation are called reactions of the second order. If the two reacting molecules are the same, then  $a = b$ . From (2), therefore, we get  $\log 1 \times \frac{1}{0} = 0 \times \infty$ . Such indeterminate fractions will be discussed later on. But if we



start from the beginning, we get, by the integration of

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a - x)^2; \quad k = \frac{1}{t} \cdot \frac{x}{a(a - x)}. \quad (3)$$

In the hydrolysis of cane sugar,



let  $a$  denote the amount of cane sugar,  $b$  the amount of water present at the beginning of the action. The velocity of the reaction can therefore be represented by the equation (3), when  $x$  denotes the amount of sugar which actually undergoes transformation. If the sugar be dissolved in a large excess of water, the concentration of the water,  $b$ , is practically constant during the whole process, because  $b$  is very large in comparison with  $x$ , and a small change in the value of  $x$  will have no appreciable effect upon the value of  $b$ ;  $b - x$  may, therefore, be assumed constant.  $\therefore k' = k(b - x)$ , where  $k'$  and  $k$  are constant. Hence equation (1) should represent the course of this reaction. Wilhelmy's measurements of the rate of this reaction shows that the above supposition corresponds closely with the truth. The hydrolysis of cane sugar in presence of a large excess of water is, therefore, said to be a reaction of the first order, although it is really bimolecular.

EXAMPLE.—Proceed as on page 59 with the following pairs of values of  $x$  and  $t$ :—

$t =$	15,	30,	45,	60,	75,...
$x =$	0.046,	0.088,	0.130,	0.168,	0.206,...

Substitute these numbers in (1); show that  $k'$  is constant. Make the proper changes for use with common logs. Put  $a = 1$ .

III.—*Reactions of the third order.* In this case three molecules take part in the reaction. Let  $a, b, c$ , denote the concentration of the reacting molecules of each species at the beginning of the reaction, then,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a - x)(b - x)(c - x). \quad (4)$$

Integrate this expression and put  $x = 0$  when  $t = 0$  in order to find the value of  $C$ . The final equation can then be written in the form,

$$k = - \frac{\log \left\{ \left( \frac{a}{a-x} \right)^{b-c} \left( \frac{b}{b-x} \right)^{c-a} \left( \frac{c}{c-x} \right)^{a-b} \right\}}{t(a-b)(b-c)(c-a)}, \quad (5)$$

where  $a, b, c$ , are all different. If we make  $a = b = c$ , in equation

(4) and integrate the resulting expression

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a-x)^2; \quad k = \frac{1}{2t} \left\{ \frac{1}{(a-x)^2} - \frac{1}{a^2} \right\} = \frac{x(2a-x)}{2ta^2(a-x)^2}. \quad (6)$$

By rearranging the terms of equation (6) so that,

$$x = a \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2a^2kt + 1}} \right), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

we see that the reaction can only come to an end ( $x = a$ ) after the elapse of an infinite time,  $t = \infty$ . If  $a = b$  when  $a$  is not equal to  $b$ ,

$$k = \frac{1}{t} \cdot \frac{1}{(a-b)^2} \left\{ \frac{(a-b)x}{b(b-x)} + \log \frac{a(b-x)}{b(a-x)} \right\}. \quad (8)$$

Among reactions of the third order we have the polymerization of cyanic acid, the reduction of ferric by stannous chloride, the oxidation of sulphur dioxide, and the action of benzaldehyde upon sodium hydroxide. For full particulars J. W. Mellor, *Chemical Statics and Dynamics*, might be consulted.

IV.—*Reactions of the fourth order.* These are comparatively rare. The reaction between hydrobromic and bromic acids is, under certain conditions, of the fourth order. So is the reaction between chromic and phosphorous acids; the action of bromine upon benzene; and the decomposition of potassium chlorate. The general equation for an  $n$ -molecular reaction, or a reaction of the  $n$ th order is

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a-x)^n; \quad k = \frac{1}{t} \cdot \frac{1}{n-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(a-x)^{n-1}} - \frac{1}{a^{n-1}} \right\}. \quad (9)$$

The intermediate steps of the integration are, Ex. (3) and Ex. (4), page 196. The integration constant is evaluated by remembering that when  $x = 0$ ,  $t = 0$ . We thus obtain

$$\frac{1}{(n-1)(a-x)^{n-1}} = kt + C; \quad C = + \frac{1}{(n-1)a^{n-1}},$$

V.—*To find the order of a chemical reaction.* Let  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  respectively denote the concentration of the reacting substance in the solution, at the end of certain times  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ . From (9), if  $C = C_1$ , when  $t = t_1$ , etc.,

$$-\frac{dC}{dt} = kC^n; \quad \therefore \frac{1}{n-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{C_2^{n-1}} - \frac{1}{C_1^{n-1}} \right\} = k(t_2 - t_1), \quad (10)$$

where  $n$  denotes the number of molecules taking part in the re-

action. It is required to find a value for  $n$ . From (10)

$$-\int_{C_1}^{C_2} \frac{dC}{C^n} = kt; \text{ or, } n = 1 + \frac{\log t_1 - \log t_2}{\log C_2 - \log C_1}. \quad (11)$$

Why the negative sign? The answer is that (10) denotes the rate of formation of the products of the reaction, (11) the rate at which the original substance disappears.  $C = a - x$ ,  $\therefore dC = -dx$ .

NUMERICAL ILLUSTRATION.—W. Judson and J. W. Walker (*Journ. Chem. Soc.*, 73, 410, 1898) found that while the time required for the decomposition of a mixture of bromic and hydrobromic acids of concentration 77, was 15 minutes; the time required for the transformation of a similar mixture of substances in a solution of concentration 51.83, was 50 minutes. Substituting these values in (11),

$$n = 1 + \frac{\log 3.833}{\log 1.5} = 3.97.$$

The nearest integer, 4, represents the order of the reaction. Use the Table of Natural Logarithms, page 627.

The intervals of time required for the transformation of equal fractional parts  $m$  of a substance contained in two solutions of different concentration  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ , may be obtained by graphic interpolation from the curves whose abscissæ are  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  and whose ordinates are  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  respectively.

Another convenient formula for the order of a reaction, is

$$n = \frac{\log \frac{dC_1}{dt} - \log \frac{dC_2}{dt}}{\log C_1 - \log C_2}. \quad (12)$$

The reader will probably be able to deduce this formula for himself.

The mathematical treatment of velocity equations here outlined is in no way difficult, although, perhaps, some practice is still requisite in the manipulation of laboratory results. The following selection illustrates what may be expected in practical work if the reaction is not affected by disturbing influences.

EXAMPLES.—(1) M. Bodenstein (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 29, 315, 1899) has the equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a - x)(b - x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

for the rate of formation of hydrogen sulphide from its elements. To integrate this expression put  $b - x = z^2$ ,  $\therefore dx = -2zdz$ , and therefore

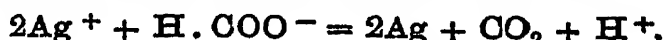
$$\int \frac{dz}{z^2 + A^2} = -\frac{kt}{2} : \text{ or, } \frac{2}{A} \tan^{-1} \frac{z}{A} + C = -kt$$

where  $A^2 = a - b$ . For the integration, see (13), page 193. This presupposes

that  $a > b$ ; if  $a < b$  the integration is Case i. of page 213. We get a similar expression for the rate of dissolution of a solid cylinder of metal in an acid. To evaluate  $C$ , note that  $x=0$  when  $t=0$ .

(2) L. T. Reicher (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 16, 203, 1895) in studying the action of bromine on fumaric acid, found that when  $t=0$ , his solution contained 8.8 of fumaric acid, and when  $t=95$ , 7.87; the concentration of the acid was then altered by dilution with water, it was then found that when  $t=0$ , the concentration was 8.88, and when  $t=132$ , 3.51. Here  $dC_1/dt = (8.88 - 7.87)/95 = 0.0106$ ;  $dC_2/dt = 0.00227$ ;  $C_1 = (8.88 + 7.87)/2 = 8.375$ ;  $C_2 = 3.7$ ,  $n = 1.87$  in (12) above. The reaction is, therefore, of the second order.

(3) In the absence of disturbing side reactions, arrange velocity equations for the reaction (A. A. Noyes and G. J. Cottle, *Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 27, 578, 1898):— $2\text{CH}_3 \cdot \text{CO}_2\text{Ag} + \text{H} \cdot \text{CO}_2\text{Na} = \text{CH}_3 \cdot \text{COOH} + \text{CH}_3 \cdot \text{CO}_2\text{Na} + \text{CO}_2 + 2\text{Ag}$ . Assuming that the silver, sodium and hydrogen salts are completely dissociated in solution, the reaction is essentially between the ions:



therefore, the reaction is of the third order. Verify this from the following data. When  $a$  (sodium formate) = 0.050,  $b$  (silver acetate) = 0.100; and when

$t =$	2,	4,	7,	11,	17, ...
$(b-x) \times 10^3 =$	81.03,	71.80,	63.95,	59.20,	56.25, ...

Show that if the reaction be of the second order,  $k$  varies from 1.88 to 2.67, while if the reaction be of the third order,  $k$  varies between 31.2 and 28.0.

(4) For the conversion of acetochloranilide into *p*-chloracetanilide, J. J. Blanksma (*Rec. Trav. Pays-Bas.*, 21, 366, 1902; 22, 290, 1908) has

$t =$	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	6,	8, ...;
$a-x =$	49.3,	35.6,	25.75,	18.5,	13.8,	7.3,	4.8, ...

Show that the reaction is of the first order.

(5) An homogeneous spheroidal solid is treated with a solvent which dissolves layer after layer of the substance of the sphere. To find the rate of dissolution of the solid. Let  $r_0$  denote the radius of the sphere at the beginning of the experiment, when  $t=0$ ; and  $r$  the radius of the time  $t$ ; let  $\phi$  denote the volume of one gram molecule of the solid; and let  $x$  denote the number of gram molecules of the sphere which have been dissolved at the time  $t$ . The rate of dissolution of the sphere will obviously be proportional to the surface  $s$ , and to the amount of acid,  $a-x$ , present in the solution at the time  $t$ . But, remembering that the volume of the sphere is  $\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$ , the volume of the  $x$  gram molecules of the sphere dissolved at the time  $t$  will be

$$\phi x = \frac{4\pi}{3}(r_0^3 - r^3); \therefore r = \left(r_0^3 - \frac{3\phi x}{4\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}},$$

and the surface  $s$  of the sphere at the time  $t$  will be  $4\pi r^2$ .

$$\therefore s = 4\pi \left(r_0^3 - \frac{3\phi x}{4\pi}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}. \therefore \frac{dx}{dt} = ks(a-x); \text{ or, } \frac{dx}{dt} = 4\pi k \left(r_0^3 - \frac{3\phi x}{4\pi}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}(a-x),$$

an expression resembling that integrated on page 217, Ex. (4).

(6) L. T. Reicher (*Liebig's Ann.*, 228, 257, 1885; 232, 103, 1886) measuring the rate of hydrolysis of ethyl acetate by sodium hydroxide, found that

when

$t =$	0,	393,	669,	1010,	1265, ... units.
$a - x =$	0.5638,	0.4866,	0.4467,	0.4113,	0.3879, ...
$b - x =$	0.8114,	0.2342,	0.1943,	0.1589,	0.1354, ...

Now apply these results to equation (2), page 219, and show that  $k$  is approximately constant and that, in consequence, the reaction is of the second order.

(7) Ethyl acetate is hydrolyzed in the presence of acidified water forming alcohol and acetic acid. Suppose  $a$  gram molecules of acetic acid are used to acidify the water, and that we start an experiment with  $b$  gram molecules of ethyl acetate, show that Wilhelmy's law leads to

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1(a + x)(b - x); \text{ or, } \frac{1}{t} \cdot \log_{10} \frac{b(a + x)}{a(b - x)} = \text{constant};$$

with the additional assumption that the velocity of the reaction is proportional to the amount of acetic acid present in the system. If  $a$  gram molecules of some other acid are used as "catalytic" agent,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = (k_2a + k_1x)(b - x); \text{ or, } \frac{1}{t} \cdot \log_{10} \left( \frac{b}{b - x} \cdot \frac{k_2a + k_1x}{k_2a} \right) = \text{constant}.$$

See W. Ostwald, *Journ. prakt. Chem.*, [2], 28, 449, 1883, for experimental numbers. Hint. There is  $a$  of catalyzing acid present and the velocity of the reaction due to this agent will be  $k_2a(b - x)$ ; but  $x$  of acetic acid has also been produced; so that the velocity of the reaction due to the catalyzing action of acetic acid is equal to  $k_1x(b - x)$ . Now apply the principle of the mutual independence of different reactions of page 70.

(8) It was once thought that the decomposition of phosphine by heat was in accordance with the equation,  $4\text{PH}_3 = \text{P}_4 + 6\text{H}_2$ ; now, it is believed that the reaction is more simple, *viz.*,  $\text{PH}_3 = \text{P} + 3\text{H}$ , and that the subsequent formation of the  $\text{P}_4$  and  $\text{H}_2$  molecules has no perceptible influence on the rate of the decomposition. Show that these suppositions respectively lead to the following equations:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(1 - x)^4; \therefore k = \frac{1}{t} \left\{ \frac{1}{(1 - x)^3} - 1 \right\}. \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = k'(1 - x); \therefore k' = \frac{1}{t} \cdot \log \frac{1}{1 - x}.$$

In other words, if the reaction be of the fourth order,  $k$  will be constant, and if of the first order,  $k'$  will be constant. To put these equations into a form suitable for experimental verification let  $a$  gram molecules of  $\text{PH}_3$  per unit volume be taken. Let the fraction  $x$  of  $a$  be decomposed in the time  $t$ . Hence,  $(1 - x)a$  gram molecules of phosphine and  $\frac{3}{2}ax$ , of hydrogen remain. Since the pressure of the gas is proportional to its density, if the original pressure of  $\text{PH}_3$  be  $p_0$  and of the mixture of hydrogen and phosphine  $p_1$ , then,

$$\frac{p_1}{p_0} = \frac{(1 - x)a + \frac{3}{2}xa}{a} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x; \quad x = \frac{2p_1}{p_0} - 2; \quad (1 - x)a = \frac{1}{a} \left( 3 - \frac{2p_1}{p_0} \right);$$

and

$$k = \frac{1}{t} \left\{ \left( \frac{p_0}{3p_0 - 2p_1} \right)^3 - 1 \right\}; \quad k' = \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{p_0}{3p_0 - 2p_1},$$

where the constants are not necessarily the same as before. D. M. Kooij

(*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 12, 155, 1892) has published the following data:—

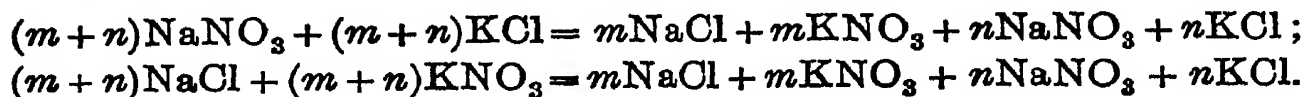
$t =$	0,	4,	14,	24,	46.8. ...
$p =$	758.01,	769.34	795.57,	819.16,	865.22, ...

Hence show that  $k'$ , not  $k$  satisfies the required condition. The decomposition of phosphine is, therefore, said to be a reaction of the first order. Of course this does not *prove* that a reaction is really unimolecular. It only proves that the velocity of the reaction is proportional to the pressure of the gas—quite another matter. See J. W. Mellor's *Chemical Statics and Dynamics*.

In experimental work in the laboratory, the investigator proceeds by the method of trial and failure in the hope that among many wrong guesses, he will at last hit upon one that will "go". So in mathematical work, there is no royal road. We proceed by instinct, not by rule. For instance, we have here made three guesses. The first appeared the most probable, but on trial proved unmistakably wrong. The second, least probable guess, proved to be the one we were searching for. In his celebrated quest for the law of descent of freely falling bodies, Galileo first tried if  $V$ , the velocity of descent was a function of  $s$ , the distance traversed. He found the assumption was not in agreement with facts. He then tried if  $V$  was a function of  $t$ , the time of descent, and so established the familiar law  $V = gt$ . So Kepler is said to have made nineteen conjectures respecting the form of the planetary orbits, and to have given them up one by one until he arrived at the elliptical orbit which satisfied the required conditions.

### § 78. Chemical Equilibria—Incomplete or Reversible Reactions.

Whether equivalent proportions of sodium nitrate and potassium chloride, or of sodium chloride and potassium nitrate, are mixed together in aqueous solution at constant temperature, each solution will, after the elapse of a certain time, contain these four salts distributed in the same proportions. Let  $m$  and  $n$  be positive integers, then



This is more concisely written,



The phenomenon is explained by assuming that the products of the reaction interact to reform the original components simul-

taneously with the direct reaction. That is to say, two independent and antagonistic changes take place simultaneously in the same reacting system. When the speeds of the two opposing reactions are perfectly balanced, the system appears to be in a stationary state of equilibrium. This is another illustration of the principle of the coexistence of different actions. The special case of the law of mass action dealing with these "incomplete" or reversible reactions is known as **Guldberg and Waage's law**. Consider a system containing two reacting substances  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  such that



Let  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  be the respective concentrations of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ . Let  $x$  of  $A_1$  be transformed in the time  $t$ , then by the law of mass action,

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = k_1(a_1 - x).$$

Further, let  $x'$  of  $A_2$  be transformed in the time  $t$ . The rate of transformation of  $A_2$  to  $A_1$  is then

$$\frac{\partial x'}{\partial t} = k_2(a_2 - x').$$

But for the mutual transformation of  $x$  of  $A_1$  to  $A_2$  and  $x'$  of  $A_2$  to  $A_1$ , we must have, for equilibrium,  $x = -x'$ ; and,  $dx = -dx'$ ;

$$\therefore \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = -k_2(a_2 + x).$$

The net, or total velocity of the reaction is obviously the algebraic sum of these "partial" velocities, or

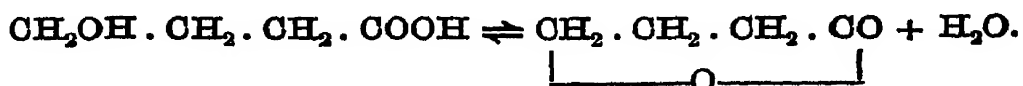
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1(a_1 - x) - k_2(a_2 + x). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

It is usual to write  $K = k_1/k_2$ . When the system has attained the stationary state  $dx/dt = 0$ . "Equilibrium," says Ostwald, "is a state which is not dependent upon time." Consequently

$$K = \frac{(a_2 + x)}{(a_1 - x)}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

where  $x$  is to be determined by chemical analysis,  $a_1$  is the amount of substance used at the beginning of the experiment,  $a_2$  is made zero when  $t = 0$ . This determines  $K$ . Now integrate (1) by the method of partial fractions and proceed as indicated in the subjoined examples.

EXAMPLES.—(1) In aqueous solution  $\gamma$ -oxybutyric acid is converted into  $\gamma$ -butyrolactone, and  $\gamma$ -butyrolactone is transformed into  $\gamma$ -oxybutyric acid according to the equation,



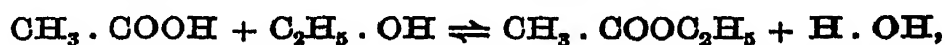
Use the preceding notation and show that the velocity of formation of the lactone is,  $dx/dt = k_1(a_1 - x) - k_2(a_2 + x)$ , and  $K = k_1/k_2 = (a_2 + x)/(a_1 - x)$ . Now integrate the first equation by the method of partial fractions. Evaluate the integration constant for  $x = 0$  when  $t = 0$  and show that

$$\frac{1}{t} \cdot \log \frac{Ka_1 - a_2}{(Ka_1 - a_2) - (1 + K)x} = \text{Constant} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

P. Henry (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 10, 116, 1892) worked with  $a_1 = 18.28$ ,  $a_2 = 0$ ; analysis showed that when  $dx/dt = 0$ ,  $x = 13.28$ ;  $a_1 - x = 4.95$ ;  $a_2 + x = 13.28$ ;  $K = 2.68$ . Substitute these values in (3); reduce the equation to its lowest terms and verify the constancy of the resulting expression when the following pairs of experimental values are substituted for  $x$  and  $t$ ,

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} t = & 21, & 50, & 65, & 80, & 160 \dots; \\ x = & 2.39, & 4.98, & 6.07, & 7.14, & 10.28 \dots \end{array}$$

(2) A more complicated example than the preceding reaction of the first order, occurs during the esterification of alcohol by acetic acid:



a reaction of the second order. Let  $a_1$ ,  $b_1$  denote the initial concentrations of the acetic acid and alcohol respectively,  $a_2$ ,  $b_2$  of ethyl acetate and water. Show that,  $dx/dt = k_1(a_1 - x)(b_1 - x) - k_2(a_2 + x)(b_2 + x)$ . Here, as elsewhere, the calculation is greatly simplified by taking gram molecules such that  $a_1 = 1$ ,  $b_1 = 1$ ,  $a_2 = 0$ ,  $b_2 = 0$ . The preceding equation thus reduces to

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1(1 - x)^2 - k_2x^2. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

For the sake of brevity, write  $k_1/(k_1 - k_2) = m$  and let  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  be the roots of the equation  $x^2 - 2mx + m = 0$ . Show that (7) may be written

$$\frac{dx}{(x - \alpha)(x - \beta)} = (k_1 - k_2)dt.$$

Integrate for  $x = 0$  when  $t = 0$ , in the usual way. Show that since  $\alpha = m + \sqrt{m^2 - m}$  and  $\beta = m - \sqrt{m^2 - m}$ , page 353,

$$\frac{1}{t} \log \frac{(m - \sqrt{m^2 - m})(m + \sqrt{m^2 - m} - x)}{(m + \sqrt{m^2 - m})(m - \sqrt{m^2 - m} - x)} = 2(k_1 - k_2) \sqrt{m^2 - m}. \quad (5)$$

$K$  is evaluated as before. Since  $m = k_1/(k_1 - k_2)$ ;  $m = 1/(1 - k_2/k_1)$ . M. Berthelot and L. Péan St. Gilles' experiments show that for the above reaction,  $k_1/k_2 = 4$ ;  $m = \frac{4}{3}$ ;  $\sqrt{m^2 - m} = \frac{2}{3}$ ;  $\frac{1}{2}(k_1 - k_2) = 0.00575$ ; or, using common logs,  $\frac{1}{2}(k_1 \times 0.4343 - k_2) = 0.0025$ . The corresponding values of  $x$  and  $t$  were

$$\begin{array}{cccc} t = & 64, & 103, & 137, & 167 \dots; \\ x = & 0.250, & 0.345, & 0.421, & 0.474 \dots; \\ \text{constant} = & 0.0023, & 0.0022, & 0.0020, & 0.0021 \dots \end{array}$$

P \*



Verify this last line from (5). For smaller values of  $t$ , side reactions are supposed to disturb the normal reaction, because the value of the constant deviates somewhat from the regularity just found.

(3) Let one gram molecule of hydrogen iodide in a  $v$  litre vessel be heated, decomposition takes place according to the equation:  $2\text{HI} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2 + \text{I}_2$ . Hence show that for equilibrium,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1 \left( \frac{1-2x}{v} \right)^2 - \left( k_2 \frac{x}{v} \right)^2 \quad (6)$$

and that  $(1-2x)/v$  is the concentration of the undissociated acid. Put  $k_1/k_2 = K$  and verify the following deductions,

$$\int \frac{dx}{K(1-2x)^2 - x^2} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{K}} \cdot \log \frac{\sqrt{K}(1-2x) + x}{\sqrt{K}(1-2x) - x} = \frac{k_2 t}{v^2}$$

Since, when  $t = 0$ ,  $x = 0$ ,  $C = 0$ . M. Bodenstein (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 13, 56, 1894; 22, 1, 1897) found  $K$ , at  $440^\circ = 0.02$ , hence  $\sqrt{K} = 0.141$ ,

$$\therefore \frac{1}{t} \cdot \log \frac{1 + 5.1x}{1 - 9.1x} = \text{constant},$$

provided the volume remains constant. The corresponding values of  $x$  and  $t$  are to be found by experiment. *E.g.*, when  $t = 15$ ,  $x = 0.0378$ , constant = 0.0171; and when  $t = 60$ ,  $x = 0.0950$ , constant = 0.0173, etc.

(4) The "active mass" of a solid is independent of its quantity. Hence, if  $c$  is a constant, show that for  $\text{CaCO}_3 \rightleftharpoons \text{CaO} + \text{CO}_2$ ,  $Kc = p$ , where  $p$  denotes the pressure of the gas.

(5) Prove that the velocity equation of a complete reaction of the first order,  $A_1 = A_2$ , has the same general form as that of a reversible reaction,  $A_1 \rightleftharpoons A_2$ , of the same order when the concentration of the substances is referred to the point of equilibrium instead of to the original mass. Let  $\xi$  denote the value of  $x$  at the point of equilibrium, then,  $dx/dt = k_1(a_1 - x) - k_2x$ ; becomes  $dx/dt = k_1(a_1 - \xi) - k_2\xi$ . Substitute for  $k_2$  its value  $k_1(a_1 - \xi)/\xi$ , when  $dx/dt = 0$ ,

$$\therefore \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{k_1 a_1 (\xi - x)}{\xi}; \text{ or, } \frac{dx}{dt} = k(\xi - x), \quad (7)$$

where the meanings of  $a$ ,  $k$ ,  $k_1$  will be obvious.

(6) Show that  $k$  is the same whether the experiment is made with the substance  $A_1$ , or  $A_2$ . It has just been shown that starting with  $A_1$ ,  $k = k_1 a_1 / \xi$ ; starting with  $A_2$ , it is evident that there is  $a_1 - \xi$  of  $A_2$  will exist at the point of equilibrium. Hence show  $dx/dt = k_2 a_1 \{ (a_1 - \xi) - x \} / (a_1 - \xi)$ ;  $k_2 \xi = k_1 (a_1 - \xi)$ , therefore, as before,  $k_2 a_1 / (a_1 - \xi) = k_1 a_1 / \xi$ .  $dx/dt = k_1 a_1 (a_1 - \xi - x) / \xi$ . Integrate between the limits  $t = 0$  and  $t = t$ ,  $x = x_0$  and  $x = x_1$ ; then show, from (7), that

$$\frac{1}{t} \log \frac{\xi - x_1}{\xi - x_0} = \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{a_1 - \xi - x_1}{a_1 - \xi - x_0} = \frac{k_1 a_1}{\xi} = k_1 + k_2 \quad (8)$$

O. Tubandt has measured the rate of inversion of  $L$ -menthone into  $d$ -menthone, and *vice versa* (Dissertation, Halle, 1904). In the first series of experiments  $x$  denotes the amount of  $d$ -menthone present at the time  $t$ ; and in the

second series, the amount of *l*-menthone present at the time  $t$ ;  $\xi$  is the value of  $x$  when the system is in a state of equilibrium, that is when  $t$  is infinite. First, the conversion of *l*-menthone into *d*-menthone.

$t = 0,$	15,	30,	45,	60,	75,	90,	105,	$\infty$ ;
$x = 0,$	0.73,	1.31,	1.74,	2.06,	2.30,	2.48,	2.62,	3.09.

Second, the conversion of *d*-menthone into *l*-menthone.

$t = 0,$	15,	30,	45,	60,	75,	90,	105,	$\infty$ ;
$x = 0,$	0.45,	0.76,	1.03,	1.22,	1.37,	1.47,	1.56,	1.84.

Show that the "velocity constant" is nearly the same in each case.  $k = 0.008$  nearly.

### § 79. Fractional Precipitation.

If to a solution of a mixture of two salts, A and B, a third substance C, is added, in an amount insufficient to precipitate all A and B in the solution, more of one salt will be precipitated, as a rule, than the other. By redissolving the mixed precipitate and again partially precipitating the salts, we can, by many repetitions of the process, effect fairly good separations of substances otherwise intractable to any known process of separation.

Since Mosander thus fractionated the gadolinite earths in 1839, the method has been extensively employed by W. Crookes (*Chem. News*, 54, 131, 155, 1886), in some fine work on the yttria and other earths. The recent separations of polonium, radium and other curiosities have attracted some attention to the process. The "mathematics" of the reactions follows directly from the law of mass action. Let only sufficient C be added to partially precipitate A and B and let the solution originally contain  $a$  of the salt A,  $b$  of the salt B. Let  $x$  and  $y$  denote the amounts of A and B precipitated at the end of a certain time  $t$ , then  $a - x$  and  $b - y$  will represent the amounts of A and B respectively remaining in the solution. The rates of precipitation are, therefore,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1(a - x)(c - z); \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = k_2(b - y)(c - z),$$

where  $c - z$  denotes the amount of C remaining in the solution at the end of a certain time  $t$ .

$$\therefore \frac{dx}{dt} : \frac{dy}{dt} = k_1(a - x) : k_2(b - y);$$

or, multiplying through with  $dt$ , we get

$$k_2 \frac{dx}{a - x} = k_1 \frac{dy}{b - y}; \quad \therefore k_2 \int \frac{d(a - x)}{a - x} = k_1 \int \frac{d(b - y)}{b - y}$$

On integration,  $k_2 \log(a - x) = k_1 \log(b - y) + \log C$ , where  $\log C$  is the integration constant. To find  $C$  notice that when  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$ , and consequently  $\log a^{k_2} = \log C b^{k_1}$ ; or,  $C = a^{k_2}/b^{k_1}$ .

$$\therefore \frac{k_1}{k_2} = \frac{\log \frac{a}{a-x}}{\log \frac{b}{b-y}}. \quad (1)$$

The ratio  $(a - x)/a$  measures the amount of salt remaining in the solution, after  $x$  of it has been precipitated. The less this ratio, the greater the amount of salt A in the precipitate. The same thing may be said of the ratio  $(b - y)/b$  in connection with the salt B. The more  $k_2$  exceeds  $k_1$ , the less will A tend to accumulate in the precipitate and, the more  $k_1$  exceeds  $k_2$ , the more will A tend to accumulate in the precipitate. If the ratio  $k_1/k_2$  is nearly unity, the process of fractional precipitation will be a very long one, because the ratio of the quantities of A and B in the precipitate will be nearly the same. In the limiting case, when  $k_1 = k_2$ , or  $k_1/k_2 = 1$ , the ratio of A to B in the mixed precipitate will be the same as in the solution. In such a case, the complex nature of the "earth" could never be detected by fractional precipitation. The application to gravimetric analysis has not yet been worked out.

### § 80. Areas enclosed by Curves. To Evaluate Definite Integrals.

Let  $AB$  (Fig. 100) be any curve whose equation is known. It

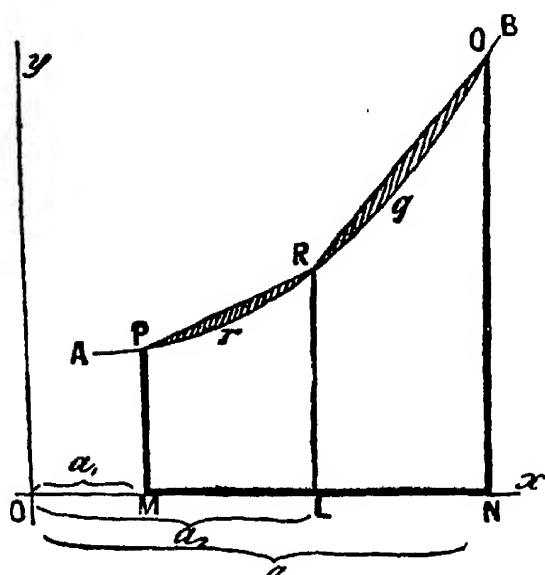


FIG. 100.

is required to find the area of the portion bounded by the curve; the two coordinates  $PM$ ,  $QN$ ; and that portion of the  $x$ -axis,  $MN$ , included between the ordinates at the extremities of that portion of the curve under investigation. The area can be approximately determined by supposing  $PQMN$  to be cut up into small strips—called **surface elements**—perpendicular to the  $x$ -axis; finding the area of each separate strip on the assumption that the curve bounding one end of the strip is a straight

line; and adding the areas of all the trapezoidal-shaped strips together. Let the surface  $PrqQNM$  be cut up into two strips by means of the line  $LR$ . Join  $PR$ ,  $RQ$ .

$$\text{Area } PQMN = \text{Area } PRLM + \text{Area } RQNL.$$

But the area so calculated is greater than that of the required figure. The shaded portion of the diagram represents the magnitude of the error. It is obvious that the narrower each strip is made, the greater will be the number of trapeziums to be included in the calculation and the smaller will be the error. If we could add up the areas of an infinite number of such strips, the actual error would become vanishingly small. Although we are unable to form any distinct conception of this process, we feel assured that such an operation would give a result absolutely correct. But enough has been said on this matter in § 68. We want to know how to add up an infinite number of infinitely small strips.

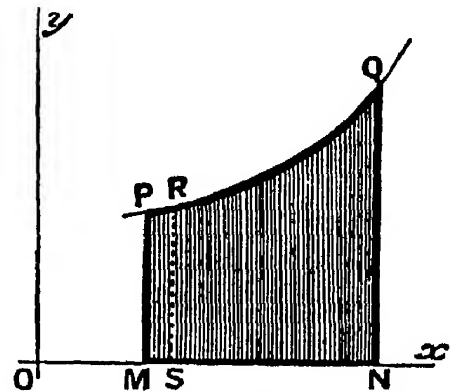


FIG. 101.

In order to have some concrete image before the mind, let us find the area of  $PQNM$  in Fig. 101. Take any small strip  $PRSM$ ; let  $PM = y$ ,  $RS = y + \delta y$ ;  $OM = x$ ; and  $OS = x + \delta x$ . Let  $\delta A$  represent the area of the small strip under consideration. If the short distance,  $PR$ , were straight and not curved, the area,  $\delta A$ , of the trapezium  $PRSM$  would be, (11), page 604,

$$\delta A = \frac{1}{2} \delta x (PM + RS) = \delta x (y + \frac{1}{2} \delta y).$$

By making  $\delta x$  smaller and smaller, the ratio,  $\delta A / \delta x = y + \frac{1}{2} \delta y$ , approaches, and, at the limit, becomes equal to

$$\lim_{\delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta A}{\delta x} = \frac{dA}{dx} = y; \therefore dA = y \cdot dx. \quad (1)$$

This formula represents the area of an infinitely narrow strip, say,  $PM$ . The total area,  $A$ , can be determined by adding up the areas of the infinite number of infinitely narrow strips ranged side by side from  $MP$  to  $NQ$ . The area of any strip is obviously length  $\times$  width, or  $y \times dx$ . Before we can proceed any further, we must know the relation between the length,  $y$ , of any strip in terms of its distance,  $x$ , from the point  $O$ . In other words, we must have the equation of the curve  $PQ$ . For instance, the area of any indefinite

portion of the curve, is

$$A = \int y \cdot dx + C, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

and the area bounded by the portion situated between the ordinates having the abscissæ  $a_2$  and  $a_3$  (Fig. 100) is

$$A = \int_{a_2}^{a_3} y \cdot dx + C. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

Equation (2) is an indefinite integral, equation (3) a definite integral. The value of the definite integral is determined by the magnitude of the upper and lower limits. In Fig. 100, if  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  represent the magnitudes of three abscissæ, such that  $a_2$  lies between  $a_1$  and  $a_3$ ,

$$A = \int_{a_1}^{a_3} y \cdot dx + C = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} y \cdot dx + \int_{a_2}^{a_3} y \cdot dx + C.$$

When the limits are known, the value of the integral is found by subtracting the expression obtained by substituting the lower limit in place of  $x$ , from a similar expression obtained by substituting the upper limit for  $x$ .

In order to fix the idea, let us take a particular case. Suppose  $y = 2x$ , and we want to deal with that portion of the curve between the ordinates  $a$  and  $b$ . From (3),

$$\int_a^b 2x \cdot dx = \left[ x^2 + C \right]_a^b; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

The vertical line in the preceding equation, (4), resembles Sarraus' **symbol of substitution**. The same idea is sometimes expressed by square brackets, thus,

$$\int_a^b 2x \cdot dx = \left[ x^2 + C \right]_a^b = (b^2 + C) - (a^2 + C) = (b^2 - a^2).$$

The process of finding the area of any surface is called, in the regular text-books, the **quadrature of surfaces**, from the fact that the area is measured in terms of a square—sq. cm., sq. in., or whatever unit is employed. In applying these principles to specific examples, the student should draw his own diagrams. If the area bounded by a portion of an ellipse or of an hyperbola is to be determined, first sketch the curve, and carefully note the limits of the integral.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) To find the area bounded by an ellipse, origin at the centre. Here

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1; \text{ or, } y = \pm \frac{b}{a} \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}.$$

Refer to Fig. 22, page 100. The sum of all the elements perpendicular to the  $x$ -axis, from  $OP_1$  to  $OP_4$ , is given by the equation

$$A = \int_0^a y \cdot dx,$$

for, when the curve cuts the  $x$ -axis,  $x = a$ , and when it cuts the  $y$ -axis,  $x = 0$ . The positive sign in the above equation, represents ordinates above the  $x$ -axis. The area of the ellipse is, therefore,

$$A = 4 \int_0^a y \cdot dx.$$

Substitute the above value of  $y$  in this expression and we get for the sum of this infinite number of strips,

$$A = 4 \frac{b}{a} \int_0^a \sqrt{(a^2 - x^2)} dx,$$

which may be integrated by parts, thus

$$A = 4 \frac{b}{a} \left[ \frac{x}{2} \sqrt{(a^2 - x^2)} + \frac{a^2}{2} \sin^{-1} \frac{x}{a} + C \right]_0^a.$$

The term within the brackets is yet to be evaluated between the limits  $x = a$  and  $x = 0$

$$A = 4 \frac{b}{a} \left[ \left\{ \frac{a}{2} \sqrt{(a^2 - a^2)} + \frac{a^2}{2} \sin^{-1} \frac{a}{a} + C \right\} - \left\{ \frac{0}{2} \sqrt{(a^2 - 0^2)} + \frac{a^2}{2} \sin^{-1} \frac{0}{a} + C \right\} \right]$$

$$\therefore A = 4 \frac{b}{a} \times \frac{a^2}{2} \sin^{-1} 1;$$

remembering that  $\sin 90^\circ = 1$ ,  $\sin^{-1} 1 = 90^\circ$  and  $2 \sin^{-1} 1 = 180 = \pi$ . The area of the ellipse is, therefore,  $\pi ab$ . If the major and minor axes are equal,  $a = b$ , the ellipse becomes a circle whose area is  $\pi a^2$ . It will be found that the constant always disappears in this way when evaluating a definite integral.

(2) Find the area bounded by the rectangular hyperbola,  $xy = a$ ; or,  $y = a/x$ , between the limits  $x = x_1$  and  $x = x_2$ .

$$A = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} y \cdot dx = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \frac{a}{x} dx;$$

$$\therefore A = a \left[ \log x + C \right]_{x_1}^{x_2} = a \{ (\log x_2 + C) - (\log x_1 + C) \} = a \log \frac{x_2}{x_1}.$$

If  $x_1 = 1$ , and  $x_2 = x$ ;  $A = a \log x$ . This simple relation appears to be the reason natural logarithms are sometimes called hyperbolic logarithms.

(3) Find the area bounded by the curve  $y = 12(x - 1)/x$ , when the limits are 12 cm. and 3 cm. Ansr. 91.36 sq. cm. The integral is  $12 \int (x - 1)x^{-1} dx$ ; or  $12[x - \log x]_{12}^3 = 12(9 - \log 4)$ , etc. Use the table of natural logarithms, page 627.

(4) Show that the area bounded by the logarithmic curve,  $x = \log y$ , is  $y - 1$ . Hint.  $A = \int dy = y + C$ . Evaluate  $C$  by noting that when  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 1$ ,  $A = 0$ . If  $y = 1$ ,  $A = 0$ ; if  $y = 2$ ,  $A = 1$ ; etc.

If polar coordinates are employed, the differential of the area

assumes the form

$$dA = \frac{1}{2}r^2 d\theta. \quad (5)$$

EXAMPLE.—Find the area of the hyperbolic spiral between 0 and  $+\infty$ . See Ex. (2), page 117.  $r\theta = a$ ;  $d\theta = -a \cdot dr/r^2$ ; consequently,

$$A = - \int_0^{\infty} \frac{a}{r^2} \cdot dr = - \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{ar}{r} \right|_0^{\infty} = \frac{ar}{4}.$$

After this the integration constant is not to be used at any stage of the process of integration between limits. It has been retained in the above discussion to further emphasize the rule: *The integration constant of a definite integral disappears during the process of integration. The absence of the indefinite integration constant is the mark of a definite integral.*

### § 81. Mean Values of Integrals.

The curve

$$y = r \sin x,$$

represents the sinusoid curve for the electromotive force,  $y$ , of an alternating current;  $r$  denotes the maximum current;  $x$  denotes the angular displacement made in the time  $t$ , such that  $x = 2\pi t/T$ , where  $T$  denotes the time of a complete revolution of the coil in seconds. The value of  $y$ , at any instant of time, is proportional to the corresponding ordinate of the curve. When  $x = 90^\circ$ ,  $t = \frac{1}{4}T$ , the coil has made a quarter revolution, and the ordinate is a maximum.

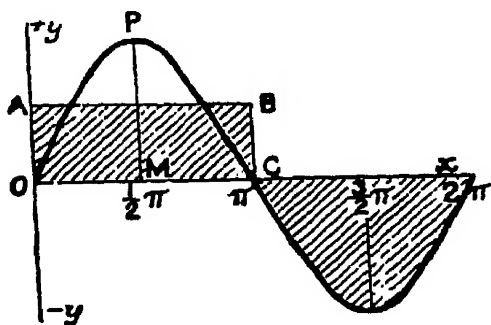


FIG. 102.

When  $x = 270^\circ$ , or when  $t = \frac{3}{4}T$ , that is, in three-quarters of a revolution, the ordinate is a minimum. The curve cuts the  $x$ -axis when  $x = 0^\circ$ ,  $180^\circ$ , and  $360^\circ$ , that is, when  $t = 0$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}T$ , and  $T$ . For half revolution, the average electromotive force beginning when  $x = 0$ , is equal to the area bounded by the curve  $OPC$  (Fig. 102),

and the  $x$ -axis, cut off at  $\frac{1}{2}T$ , that is, at  $\pi$ . This area,  $A_1$ , is evidently

$$A_1 = \int_0^{\pi} r \sin x \cdot dx = - \left[ r \cos x \right]_0^{\pi} = - r \cos \pi + r \cos 0 = 2r,$$

because  $\cos \pi = \cos 180^\circ = -1$ , and  $\cos 0^\circ = 1$ .

The area,  $A_2$ , bounded by the sine curve during the second half revolution of the coil lies below the  $x$ -axis, and it has the same numerical value as in the first half. This means that the average

electromotive force during the second half revolution is numerically equal to that of the first half, but of opposite sign. It is easy to see this.

$$A_2 = \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} r \sin x \cdot dx = - \left[ r \cos x \right]_{\pi}^{2\pi} = - r \cos 2\pi + r \cos \pi = - 2r,$$

since  $\cos 360^\circ = \cos 0^\circ = 1$ . The total area,  $A$ , bounded by the sine curve and the  $x$ -axis during a complete revolution of the coil is zero, since

$$A = A_1 + A_2 = 0.$$

The area bounded by the sine curve and the  $x$ -axis for a whole period  $2\pi$ , or for any number of whole periods, is zero.

If now  $y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_n$  be the values of  $f(x)$  when the space from  $a$  to  $b$  is divided into  $n$  equal parts each  $\delta x$  wide,  $b - a = n\delta x$ , and if

$$y = f(x);$$

$$y_1 = f(a); y_2 = f(a + \delta x); y_3 = f(a + 2\delta x); \dots; y_n = f(b - \overline{n-1}\delta x).$$

The arithmetical mean of these  $n$  values of  $y$  is, by definition, the  $n$ th part of their sum. Hence,

$$\frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + \dots + y_n}{n} = \frac{(y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + \dots + y_n)\delta x}{b - a},$$

since  $n\delta x = b - a$ . If  $x$  now assumes every possible value lying in the interval between  $b$  and  $a$ ,  $n$  must be infinitely great. Hence the sum of this infinite number of indefinitely small quantities is expressed by the symbol

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx,$$

as indicated on page 189. The arithmetical mean of all the values which  $f(x)$  can assume in the interval  $b - a$  is, therefore,

$$\frac{\int_a^b f(x) dx}{b - a}; \text{ or, } \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(x) dx.$$

This is called the **mean or average value** of  $f(x)$  over the range  $b - a$ . Geometrically, the mean value is the altitude of a rectangle, on the base  $b - a$ , whose area is equal to that bounded by the curve  $y = f(x)$ , the two ordinates and the  $x$ -axis. In Fig. 102,  $OA$  is the mean value of  $y$ , that is, of  $r \sin x$ , for all values of  $x$  which may vary continuously from 0 to  $\pi$ . This is easy to see,



$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\pi r \sin x \cdot dx &= \text{Area } OPC = \text{Area of rectangle } OABC; \\ &= OC \times OA = (b - a) \times OA,\end{aligned}$$

where  $a$  denotes the abscissa at the point  $O$ , and  $b$  the abscissa at  $C$ . But  $b - a = \pi$ , and  $OA = y_1$ , consequently,

$$\text{Mean value of ordinate} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi r \sin x \cdot dx = \frac{2r}{\pi} = 0.6366r.$$

Instruments for measuring the average strength,  $y_1$ , of an alternating current during half a complete period, that is to say, during the time the current flows in one direction, are called *electrodynamometers*. The *electrodynamometer*, therefore, measures  $y_1 = OA$  (Fig. 102)  $= 2r/\pi = 0.6366r$ . But  $MP = r$  denotes the maximum current, because  $\sin x$  is greatest when  $x = 90^\circ$ , and  $\sin 90^\circ = 1$ . Hence,  $y = r \sin 90^\circ = r$ .

$$\text{Maximum current} = r; \text{ Average current} = 0.6366r.$$

There is another variety of mean of no little importance in the treatment of alternating currents, namely, the square root of the mean of the squares of the ordinates for the range from  $x = 0$  to  $x = \pi$ . This magnitude is called the **mean square value** of  $f(x)$ . With the preceding function,  $y = r \sin x$ , the

$$\text{Mean value of } y^2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi r^2 \sin^2 x \cdot dx = \frac{r^2}{2};$$

on integration by parts as in (12), page 205. Again

$$\text{Mean square value of } y^2 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}r^2} = 0.7071r.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) In calculations involving mean values care must be taken not to take the wrong independent variable. Find the mean velocity of a particle falling from rest with a constant acceleration, the velocities being taken at equal distances of time. When a body falls from rest,  $V = gt$ ,

$$\frac{1}{t} \int_0^t V dt = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t gt \cdot dt = \frac{gt}{2} = \frac{V}{2},$$

that is to say, the mean velocity,  $Vt$ , with respect to equal intervals of time is one half the final velocity. On the other hand, if we seek the mean velocity which the body had after describing equal intervals of space,  $s$ , and remembering that  $V^2 = 2gs$ ,

$$\frac{1}{s} \int_0^s V ds = \frac{\sqrt{2g}}{s} \int_0^s \sqrt{s} \cdot ds = \frac{2\sqrt{2gs}}{3} = \frac{2V}{3},$$

that is, two-thirds of the final velocity.

(2) Show that if a particle moves with a constant acceleration, the mean square of the velocities at equal infinitely small intervals of time, is  $\frac{1}{3}(V_0^2 + V_0V_1 + V_1^2)$ , where  $V_0$  and  $V_1$  respectively denote the initial and final velocities.

(3) The relation between the amount,  $x$ , of a substance transformed the time,  $t$ , in a unimolecular chemical reaction may be written  $x = a(1 - e^{-kt})$  where  $a$  denotes the amount of substance present at the beginning of the reaction, and  $k$  is a constant. Show that  $V = ake^{-kt}$ ; or,  $V = k(a - x)$  according as we refer the velocity to equal intervals of time,  $t$ ; or to equal amounts of substance transformed,  $x$ . Also show that the mean velocity with respect to equal intervals of time in the interval  $t_1 - t_0$ , is

$$V_t = \frac{1}{t_1 - t_0} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} ake^{-kt} dt = \frac{a(e^{-kt_1} - e^{-kt_0})}{t_1 - t_0} = \frac{V_0 - V_1}{\log t_0 - \log t_1},$$

and the mean velocity,  $V_x$ , with respect to equal amounts of substance transformed, is

$$V_x = \frac{1}{x_1 - x_0} \int_{x_0}^{x_1} k(a - x) dx = \frac{k(x_1 - x_0)(2a - x_1 - x_0)}{2(x_1 - x_0)} = \frac{V_0 + V_1}{2}.$$

If  $t_0 = 0$ , and  $t_1$  is infinite, the mean velocity,  $V_t$ , converges towards zero. Several interesting relations can be deduced from this equation.

Problems connected with mean densities, centres of mass, moments of inertia, mean pressures, and centres of pressure are treated by the aid of the above principles.

## § 82. Areas Bounded by Curves. Work Diagrams.

I.—*The area enclosed between two different curves.* Let  $PABQ$  and  $PA'B'Q$  (Fig. 103) be two curves, it is required to find the area  $PABQB'A'$ . Let  $y_1 = f_1(x)$  be the equation of one curve,  $y_2 = f_2(x)$ , the equation of the other. First find the abscissæ of the points of intersection of the two curves. Find separately the

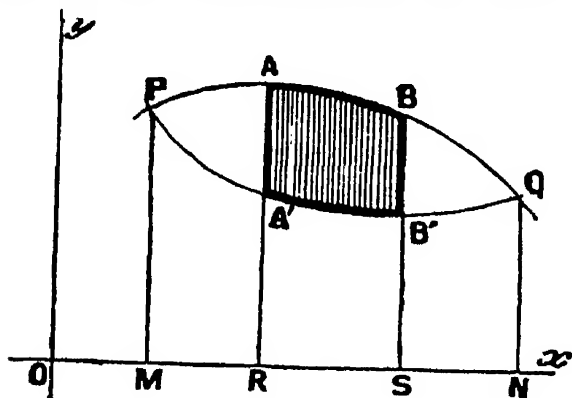


FIG. 103.

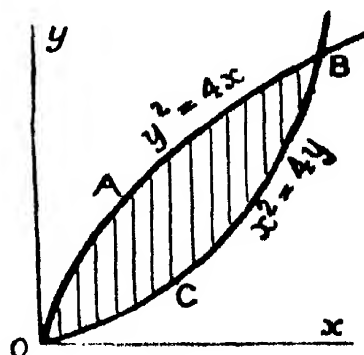


FIG. 104.

areas  $PABQMN$  and  $PA'B'QMN$ , by the preceding methods. Let  $a$  and  $b$  respectively denote the abscissæ  $OM$ , and  $ON$  (Fig. 103), of the points of intersection,  $P$  and  $Q$ , of the two curves. The required area,  $A$ , is, therefore,

$$\text{Area } PABQB'A' = \text{Area } PABQMN - \text{Area } PA'B'QMN$$

$$\therefore A = \int_a^b y_1 dx - \int_a^b y_2 \cdot dx. \quad (1)$$

To find the area of the portion  $ABB'A'$ , let  $x_1$  be the abscissa of  $AR$  and  $x_2$  the abscissa of  $BS$ , then,

$$A = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} y_1 \cdot dx - \int_{x_1}^{x_2} y_2 \cdot dx = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} (y_1 - y_2) dx. \quad (2)$$

In illustration let us consider the area included between the two parabolas whose equations are  $y^2 = 4x$ ; and  $x^2 = 4y$ . The curves obviously meet at the origin, and at the point  $x = 4$ , cm., say,  $y = 4$  cm. (16), page 95. Consequently,

$$A = \int_0^4 \frac{x^2}{4} dx - \int_0^4 2\sqrt{x} \cdot dx = 2 \int_0^4 \left( \frac{x^2}{8} - \sqrt{x} \right) dx = -5\frac{1}{3} \text{ sq. cm.} \quad (3)$$

Why the negative sign? On plotting it will be seen that we first integrated along the line  $OCB$  (Fig. 104), and then subtracted from this the result of integrating along the line  $OAP$ . We ought to have gone along  $OAP$  first. It is therefore necessary to pay some attention to this matter.

Let a given volume,  $x$ , of a gas be contained in a cylindrical vessel in which a tightly fitting piston can be made to slide (Fig.



FIG. 105.

105). Let the sectional area of the piston be unity. Now let the volume of gas change  $dx$  units when a slight pressure  $X$  is applied to the free end of the

piston. Then, by definition of work,  $W$ ,

$$\text{Work} = \text{Force} \times \text{Displacement}; \text{ or, } dW = X \cdot dx.$$

If  $p$  denotes the pressure of the gas and  $v$  the volume, we have,

$$dW = p \cdot dv.$$

Now let the gas pass from one condition where  $x = x_1$  to another state where  $x = x_2$ . Let the corresponding pressures to which the gas was subjected be respectively denoted by  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

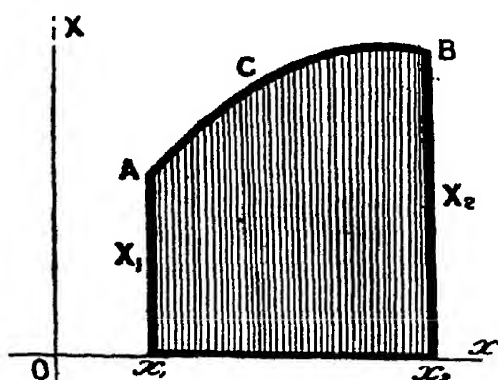


FIG. 106.—Work Diagram.

By plotting the successive values of  $X$  and  $x$ , as  $x$  passes from  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , we get the curve  $ACB$ , shown in Fig. 106. The shaded part of the figure represents the total work done on the system during the change.

If the gas returns to its original state through another series of successive values of  $X$  and  $x$  we have the curve  $ADB$  (Fig. 107). The total

work done *by* the system will then be represented by the area  $ABDx_2x_1$ . If we agree to call the work done *on* the system *positive*; and work done *by* the system *negative*, then (Fig. 107),

$$W_1 - W_2 = \text{Area } ACBx_2x_1 - \text{Area } ADBx_2x_1 = \text{Area } ACBD.$$

The shaded part in Fig. 107, therefore, represents the work done *on* the system during the above cycle of changes. A series of operations by which a substance, after leaving a certain state, finally returns to its original condition, is called a **cycle**, or a **cyclic process**. A cyclic process is represented graphically by a closed curve. In any cyclic change, the work done on the system is equal to the "area of the cycle".

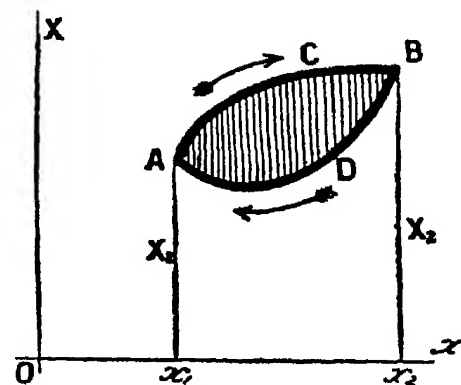


FIG. 107.—Work Diagram.

Work is done *on* the system while  $x$  is increasing and *by* the system when  $x$  is decreasing. Therefore, if the curve is described by a point moving round the area  $ACBD$  in the direction of the hands of a clock, the total work done on the system is positive; if done in the opposite direction, negative. We can now understand the negative sign in the comparatively simple example, Fig. 104, above. We should have obtained a positive value if we had started from the origin and taken the curves in the direction of the hands of a clock.

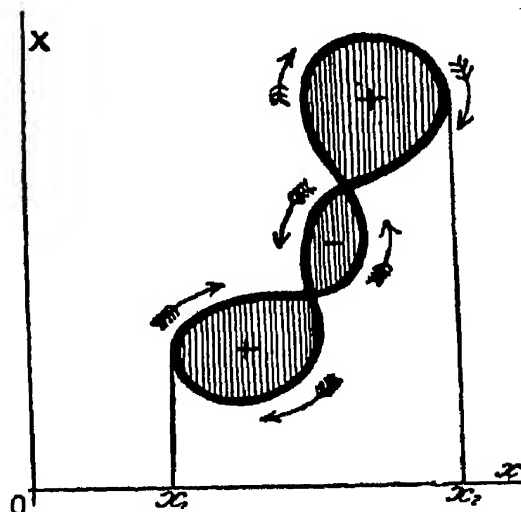


FIG. 108.—Work Diagram.

If the diagram has several loops as shown in Fig. 108, the total work is the sum of the areas of the several loops developed by the point travelling in the same direction as the hands of a clock, minus the sum of the areas developed when the point travels in a contrary direction. This graphic mode of representing work was first used by Clapeyron. The diagrams are called **Clapeyron's Work Diagrams**.

In Watt's indicator diagrams, the area enclosed by the curve represents the excess of the work done by the steam *on* the piston during a forward stroke, over the work done by the piston when ejecting the steam in the return stroke. The total energy communicated to the piston is thus represented

by the area enclosed by the curve. This area may be determined by one of the methods described in the next chapter, page 335, § 110.

II. The area bounded by two branches of the same curve is but a simple application of Equation (1). Thus the area,  $A$ , enclosed between the two limbs of the curve  $y^2 = (x^2 + 6)^2$  and the ordinates  $x = 1$ ,  $x = 2$  is

$$A = \pm \int_1^2 (x^2 + 6) dx = \pm 16\frac{2}{3} \text{ units,}$$

as you will see by the method adopted in the preceding example.

EXAMPLE.—Show that the area between the parabola  $y = x^2 - 5x + 6$ , the  $x$ -axis, and the ordinates  $x = 1$ ,  $x = 5$ , is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  units. Hint. Plot the curve and the last result follows from the diagram. Of course you can get the same result by integrating  $y dx$  between the limits  $x = 5$ , and  $x = 1$ .

### § 83. Definite Integrals and their Properties.

There are some interesting properties of definite integrals worth noting, and it is perhaps necessary to further amplify the remarks on page 232.

I. A definite integral is a function of its limits. If  $f'(x)$  denotes the first differential coefficient of  $f(x)$ ,

$$\int_a^b f'(x) \cdot dx = \left[ f(x) \right]_a^b, \text{ or, } \left| f(x) \right|_a^b = f(b) - f(a).$$

This means that a definite integral is a function of its limits, not of the variable of integration, or

$$\int_a^b f(x) \cdot dx = \int_a^b f(y) \cdot dy = \int_a^b f(z) \cdot dz. \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

In other words, functions of the same form, when integrated between the same limits have the same value.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show  $\int_b^a e^{-x} dx = \int_b^a e^{-z} dz = e^{-b} - e^{-a}$ .

(2) Prove  $\int_{-1}^3 x^2 \cdot dx = \frac{1}{3}\{(3)^3 - (-1)^3\} = 9\frac{1}{3}$ .

By way of practice verify the following results:—

(3)  $\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin x \cdot dx = - \left| \cos x \right|_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} = - \left( \cos \frac{\pi}{2} - \cos 0^\circ \right) = 1$ .

(4)  $\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^2 x \cdot dx = \frac{\pi}{4}$ ;  $\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^2 x \cdot dx = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - 1 \right)$ ;  $\int_0^\pi \sin^2 x \cdot dx = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

Hint for the indefinite integral. Integrate by parts. Put  $u = \sin x$ ,  $dv = \sin x \cdot dx$ . From (1), § 74,

$$\int \sin^2 x \cdot dx = \sin x \cdot \cos x + \int \cos^2 x \cdot dx = \sin x \cdot \cos x + \int (1 - \sin^2 x) \cdot dx.$$

Transpose the last term to the left-hand side, and divide by 2.

$$\therefore \int \sin^2 x \cdot dx = \frac{1}{2}(\sin x \cdot \cos x + x) + C.$$

II. *The interchange of the limits of a definite integral causes the integral to change its sign.* It is evident that

$$\int_b^a f'(x) dx = f(a) - f(b) = - \int_a^b f'(x) dx, \quad (2)$$

or, when the upper and lower limits of an integral are interchanged, only the sign of the definite integral changes. This means that if the change of the variable from  $b$  to  $a$  is reckoned positive, the change from  $a$  to  $b$  is negative. That is to say, if motion in one direction is reckoned positive, motion in the opposite direction is to be reckoned negative.

III. *The decomposition of the integration limits.* If  $m$  is any interval between the limits  $a$  and  $b$ , it follows directly from what has been said upon page 232, that

$$\int_b^a f'(x) dx = \int_m^a f'(x) dx + \int_b^m f'(x) dx = f(a) - f(m) + f(m) - f(b). \quad (3)$$

Or we can write

$$\int_b^a f'(x) dx = \int_b^m f'(x) dx - \int_a^m f'(x) dx = f(m) - f(b) - f(m) + f(a). \quad (4)$$

In words, a definite integral extending over any given interval is equal to the sum of the definite integrals extending over the partial intervals. Consequently, if  $f'(x)$  is a finite and single-valued function between  $x = a$ , and  $x = b$ , but has a finite discontinuity at some point  $m$  (Fig. 109), we can evaluate the integral by taking the sum of the partial integrals extending from  $a$  to  $m$ , and from  $m$  to  $b$ .

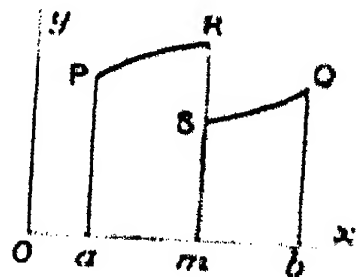


FIG. 109.

When any function has two or more values for any assigned real or imaginary value of the independent variable, it is said to be a multi-valued

function. Such are logarithmic, irrational algebraic, and inverse trigonometrical functions.

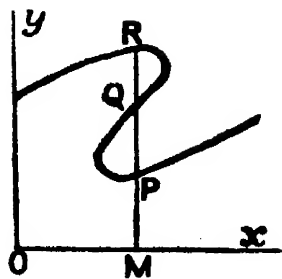


FIG. 110.

For example,  $y = \tan^{-1}x$  is a multiple-valued function, because the ordinates corresponding to the same value of  $x$  differ by multiples of  $\pi$ . Verify this by plotting. Obviously, if  $x = a$  and  $x = b$  are the limits of integration of a multiple-valued function, we must make sure that the ordinates  $x = a$  and  $x = b$  belong to the same branch of the curve  $y = f(x)$ . In Fig. 110, if  $x = OM$ ,  $y$  is multi-valued, for  $y$  may be  $MP$ ,  $MQ$ , or  $MR$ . The imaginary values in no way interfere with the ordinary arithmetical ones. A single-valued

function assumes one single value for any assigned (real or imaginary) value of the independent variable. For example, rational algebraic, exponential and trigonometrical functions are single-valued functions.

IV. If  $f'(x)dx$  be one function of  $y$ , and  $f'(a - x)dx$  be another function of  $y$ ,

$$\int_0^a f'(x)dx = \int_0^a f'(a - x)dx. \quad (5)$$

For, if we put  $a - y = x$ ;  $\therefore dx = -dy$ , and substitute  $x = a$ , we see at once that  $y = 0$ ; and similarly, if  $x = 0$ ,  $y = a$ .

$$\therefore \int_0^a f'(x)dx = - \int_a^0 f'(a - y)dy = \int_0^a f'(a - x)dx,$$

from (2) and (1) above, or we can see this directly, since

$$\int_0^a f'(x)dx = \int_0^a f'(a - x)dx = - \int_0^a f'(a - x)d(a - x) = f(a) - f(0).$$

This result simply means that the area of  $OPP'O'$  (Fig. 111)

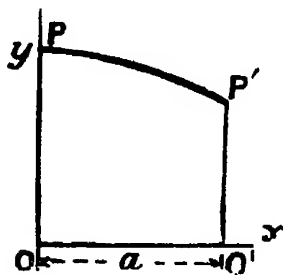


FIG. 111.

can be determined either by taking the origin at  $O$  and calling  $OO'$  the positive direction of the  $x$ -axis; or by transferring the origin to the point  $O'$ , a distance  $a$  from the old origin  $O$ , and calling  $O'O$  the positive direction of the  $x$ -axis. The following result is an important application of this,

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^n x \cdot dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^n \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - x \right) dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \cos^n x \cdot dx. \quad (6)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Verify the following results:—

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \cos x \cdot dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin x \cdot dx = 1; \quad \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \cos^2 x \cdot dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^2 x \cdot dx = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

(2) Show that  $\int_{-a}^a f(x^2)dx = 2 \int_0^a f(x^2)dx$ .

(3) Evaluate  $\int_0^\pi \sin mx \cdot \sin nx dx$ . By (28), page 612,

$$-2 \sin mx \cdot \sin nx = \cos(m-n)x - \cos(m+n)x.$$

$$\therefore \int \sin mx \cdot \sin nx dx = \frac{1}{2} \int \cos(m-n)x dx - \frac{1}{2} \int \cos(m+n)x dx;$$

$$\therefore \int \sin mx \cdot \sin nx dx = \frac{\sin(m-n)x}{2(m-n)} - \frac{\sin(m+n)x}{2(m+n)}.$$

Therefore, if  $m$  and  $n$  are integral,

$$\int_0^\pi \sin mx \cdot \cos nx dx = 0.$$

Remembering that  $\sin \pi = \sin 180^\circ = 0$ , and  $\sin 0^\circ = 0$ , if  $m = n$ , show that

$$\int_0^\pi \sin^2 nx dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\pi (1 - \cos 2nx) dx = \left[ \frac{x}{2} - \frac{\sin 2nx}{4n} \right]_0^\pi = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

(4) Show that the integral of  $\cos mx \cdot \cos nx \cdot dx$ , between the limits  $\pi$  and 0, is zero when  $m$  and  $n$  are whole numbers and that the integral is  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ , when  $m = n$ . Hints. From (27), page 612,

$$2 \cos mx \cdot \cos nx = \cos(m-n)x + \cos(m+n)x.$$

(5) Evaluate  $\int_0^\pi a \sin \frac{x}{2} \cdot \cos \frac{x}{2} \cdot dx$ . Ansr.

$$2a \int_0^\pi \sin \frac{x}{2} \cdot d\left(\sin \frac{x}{2}\right) = \frac{2a}{2} \left[ \sin^2 \frac{x}{2} \right]_0^\pi = a.$$

(6) Show that  $\int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \cos mx \cdot \cos nx \cdot dx = 0$ ;  $\int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \sin mx \cdot \sin nx \cdot dx = 0$ ;

$\int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \cos mx \cdot \sin nx \cdot dx = 0$ . Hint. Use the results of Ex. (3) and (4).

(7) Integrate  $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{dx}{x^2} = \int_{-1}^1 x^{-2} dx = \left[ -\frac{1}{x} \right]_{-1}^{+1}$ , and is the answer  $-2$ ?

V. *The function may become infinite at or between the limits of integration.* We have assumed that the integrals are continuous between the limits of integration. I dare say that the beginner has given an affirmative answer to the question at the end of the last example. The integral  $\int x^{-2} dx$ , between the limits 1 and  $-1$  ought to be given by the area bounded by the curve  $y = x^{-2}$ , the  $x$ -axis and the ordinates corresponding with  $x = 1$ , and  $x = -1$ . Plot the curve and you will find that this result is erroneous. The curve sweeps through infinity, whatever that may mean, as  $x$  passes from  $+1$  to  $-1$  (Fig. 112). *The method of integration is, therefore, unreliable when the function to be integrated becomes infinite or otherwise discontinuous at or between the limits of integration.* Consequently, it is necessary to examine

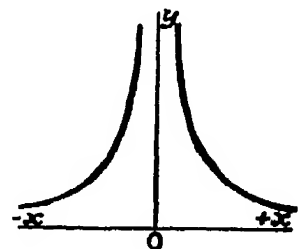


FIG. 112.



certain functions in order to make sure that they are finite and continuous between the given limits, or that the functions either continually increase or decrease, or alternately increase and decrease a finite number of times.

This subject is discussed in the opening chapters of B. Riemann and H. Weber's *Die Partiellen Differential-Gleichungen der mathematischen Physik*, Braunschweig, 1900-1901, to which the student must refer if he intends to go exhaustively into this subject. I can, however, give a few hints on the treatment of these integrals. It is easy to see that

$$\int_0^n e^{-x} dx = \left[ -e^{-x} \right]_0^n = -\left[ \frac{1}{e^n} - \frac{1}{e^0} \right] = 1 - \frac{1}{e^n},$$

and if  $n$  is made infinitely great, the integral tends towards the limit unity. Hence we say that

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-x} dx = 1.$$

If the function is continuous for all values of  $x$  between  $a$  and  $b$ , except when  $x = b$ , at the upper limit, it is obvious that

$$\int_a^b f'(x) dx = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \int_a^{b-h} f'(x) dx \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

if  $h$  is diminished indefinitely.  $h$ , of course, is a positive number. And in a similar manner, if  $f(x)$  is continuous for all values of  $x$  except when  $x = a$ , at the lower limit,

$$\int_a^b f'(x) dx = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \int_{a+h}^b f'(x) dx. \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EXAMPLES.}-(1) \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x}} &= \text{Lt}_{h=0} \int_0^{1-h} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x}} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \left[ -2\sqrt{1-x} \right]_0^{1-h} \\ &= \text{Lt}_{h=0} \{ -2\sqrt{1-1+h} - (-2) \} = 2 - 2\sqrt{h}. \end{aligned}$$

As  $h$  is made indefinitely small, the integral tends towards the limit 2.

$$\therefore \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x}} = 2.$$

$$(2) \text{ Show that } \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x^2} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \int_h^1 \frac{dx}{x^2} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \left( \frac{1}{h} - 1 \right).$$

As  $h$  is made very small, the expression on the right becomes infinite. A definite numerical value for the integral does not exist.

$$(3) \text{ Show that } \int_0^a \frac{dx}{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \int_0^{a-h} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \sin^{-1} \left( 1 - \frac{h}{a} \right).$$

Since when  $h$  is made very small the limit<sup>1</sup> approaches  $\sin^{-1}1$ , or  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ .

$$(4) \text{ Show that } \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \int_h^1 \frac{dx}{x} = \log 1 - \log h = \log \frac{1}{h} = \infty.$$

When the function  $f'(x)$  becomes infinite *between* the limits, we write

$$\int_a^b f'(x) dx = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \int_a^{m-h} f'(x) dx + \text{Lt}_{h'=0} \int_{m+h'}^b f'(x) dx. \quad (9)$$

if  $f'(x)$  only becomes infinite at the one point. If there are  $n$  discontinuities, we must obviously take the sum of  $n$  integrals.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EXAMPLES.} - (1) \int_{-1}^1 \frac{dx}{x^2} &= \text{Lt}_{h=0} \int_{-1}^{-h} \frac{dx}{x^2} + \text{Lt}_{h'=0} \int_{h'}^1 \frac{dx}{x^2}, \\ &= \text{Lt}_{h=0} \left[ -\frac{1}{x} \right]_{-1}^{-h} + \text{Lt}_{h'=0} \left[ -\frac{1}{x} \right]_{h'}^1 = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{h} \right) + \text{Lt}_{h'=0} \left( \frac{1}{h'} - 1 \right), \end{aligned}$$

The integral thus approaches infinity as  $h$  and  $h'$  are made very small.

$$\begin{aligned} (2) \int_0^2 \frac{dx}{(x-1)^2} &= \text{Lt}_{h=0} \int_{1+h}^2 \frac{dx}{(x-1)^2} + \text{Lt}_{h'=0} \int_0^{1-h'} \frac{dx}{(x-1)^2} \\ &= \text{Lt}_{h=0} \left[ -\frac{1}{x-1} \right]_{1+h}^2 + \text{Lt}_{h'=0} \left[ -\frac{1}{x-1} \right]_0^{1-h'} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \left( \frac{1}{h} - 1 \right) + \text{Lt}_{h'=0} \left( \frac{1}{h'} - 1 \right), \end{aligned}$$

as  $h$  and  $h'$  become indefinitely small, the limit becomes indefinitely great, and the integral is indeterminate.

$$(3) \text{ Show that } \int_{-1}^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt[3]{x}} = \frac{6}{2}.$$

It would now do the beginner good to revise the study of limits by the aid of say J. J. Hardy's pamphlet, *Infinitesimals and Limits*, Easton, 1900, or the discussions in the regular text-books.

### § 84. To find the Length of any Curve.

To find the length,  $l$ , of the curve  $AB$  (Fig. 113) when the equation of the curve is known. This is equivalent to finding the length of a straight line of the same length as the curve if the curve were flattened out or rectified, hence the process is called the **rectification of curves**. Let the coordinates of  $A$  be  $(x_0, y_0)$ , and of  $B$ ,  $(x_n, y_n)$ . Take any two points,  $P$ ,  $Q$ , on the curve. Make the construction shown in the figure. Then, by Euclid, i., 47, if  $P$  and  $Q$  are sufficiently close, we have, very nearly

$$(PQ)^2 = (\delta x)^2 + (\delta y)^2; \text{ or, } dl = \sqrt{(\delta x)^2 + (\delta y)^2}$$

---

<sup>1</sup> Note the equivocal use of the word limit. There is a difference between the "limit" of the differential calculus and the "limit" of the integral calculus.

at the limit when the length of the chord  $PQ$  is equal to the length of the arc  $PQ$ , (1), page 15. Hence, the sum,  $l$ , of all the small elements  $dl$  ranging side by side from  $x_1$  to  $x_2$  will be

$$l = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} \cdot dx. \quad (1)$$

In order to apply this result it is only necessary to differentiate the equation of the curve and substitute the values of  $dx$  and  $dy$ , so obtained, in equation (1). By integrating this equation, we obtain a general expression between the assigned limits, we get the length of the given portion of the curve.

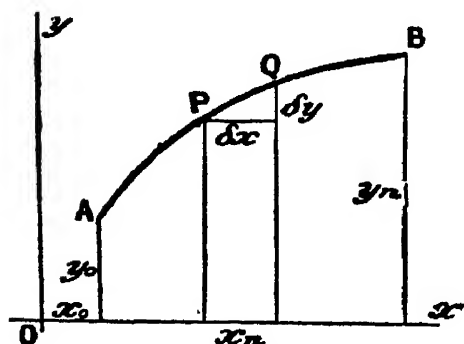


FIG. 118.

If the equation is expressed in polar coordinates, the length of a small element,  $dl$ , is deduced in a similar manner. Thus,

$$dl = \sqrt{(dr)^2 + r^2(d\theta)^2}. \quad (2)$$

The mechanical rectification of curves in practical work is frequently done by running a wheel along the curve and observing how much it travels. In the *opisometer* this is done by starting the wheel from a stop, running it along the path to be measured; and then applying it to the scale of the diagram, running it backwards until the stop is felt.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If the curve is a common parabola  $y^2 = 4ax$ ,  $\therefore ydy = 2adx$ ; or,  $(dx)^2 = y^2(dy)^2/4a^2$ ;  $\therefore dl = \sqrt{(y^2 + 4a^2)dy}/2a$ , from (1); now integrate, as in Ex. (1), page 203, and we get  $l = \frac{1}{2}y \sqrt{y^2 + 4a^2} + 2a \log\{(y + \sqrt{y^2 + 4a^2})/2a\} + C$ . To find  $C$ , put  $y = 0$ , when  $l = 0$ ;  $\therefore C = -2a^2 \log 2a$ .

(2) Show that the perimeter of the circle,  $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$ , is  $2\pi r$ . Let  $l$  be the length of the arc in the first quadrant, then  $dy/dx = -x/y$ .

$$\therefore l = \int_0^r \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} \cdot dx = \int_0^r \left(\frac{x^2 + y^2}{y^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} dx = r \int_0^r \frac{dx}{\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}} = \left[ r \sin^{-1} \frac{x}{r} \right]_0^r = \frac{\pi r}{2}.$$

$$\therefore \text{Whole perimeter} = 4 \times \frac{1}{2} \pi r = 2\pi r.$$

(3) Find the length of the equiangular spiral, page 116, whose equation is  $r = e^\theta$ ; or,  $\theta = \log r / \log e$ . Ansr.  $l = \sqrt{2} \cdot r$ . Hint. Differentiate;  $\therefore d\theta = dr/r$ ,  $\therefore dl = \sqrt{2} \cdot dr$ .  $\therefore l = \sqrt{2} \cdot r + C$ ; when  $r = 0$ ,  $l = 0$ ,  $C = 0$ .

(4) The length of the first whorl of Archimedes' spiral  $2\pi r = a\theta$  is  $3.8885a$ . Verify this. Hint. First show that the length of the spiral from the origin to any value of  $\theta$  is  $\frac{1}{2}a/\pi \times \{\theta \sqrt{1 + \theta^2} + \log_e(\theta + \sqrt{1 + \theta^2})\}$ . For the first whorl,  $\theta = 2\pi = 6.2832$ ;  $\sqrt{1 + \theta^2} = 6.363$ ;  $\theta + \sqrt{1 + \theta^2} = 12.6462$ ;  $\log_e(\theta + \sqrt{1 + \theta^2}) = \log_e 12.6462 = 2.5373$ . Ansr.  $= a(3.1885 + 0.202)$ .

(5) Find the value of the ratio

$$u = \frac{l}{r} = \frac{\text{Length of hyperbolic arc from } x = a \text{ to } x = x}{\text{Distance of a point } P(x, y) \text{ from the origin}}.$$

The equation of the rectangular hyperbola is  $x^2 - y^2 = a^2$ ,  $\therefore y = \sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$ ;  $\therefore dy/dx = x/\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$ . By substitution in (1), remembering that  $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ ;  $y^2 = x^2 - a^2$ ;  $\therefore r = \sqrt{2x^2 - a^2}$ .

$$l = \int_a^x \sqrt{\frac{2x^2 - a^2}{x^2 - a^2}} dx; \therefore \frac{l}{r} = \int_a^x \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}} = \log \frac{x + \sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}{a}.$$

We shall want to refer back to this result when we discuss hyperbolic functions, and also to show that

$$e^u = \frac{x + \sqrt{x^2 - a^2}}{a}; \left(e^u - \frac{x}{a}\right)^2 = \frac{x^2}{a^2} - 1; \frac{2xe^u}{a} = e^{2u} + 1; \therefore \frac{x}{a} = \frac{e^u + e^{-u}}{2}.$$

The reader may have noticed the remarkable analogy between the chemist's "atom," the physicist's "particle," and "molecule," and the mathematician's "differential". When the chemist wishes to understand the various transformations of matter, he resolves matter into minute elements which he calls atoms; so here, we have sought the form of a curve by resolving it into small elements. Both processes are temporary and arbitrary auxiliaries designed to help the mind to understand in parts what it cannot comprehend as a whole. But once the whole concept is built up, the scaffolding may be rejected.

### § 85. To find the Area of a Surface of Revolution.

A surface of revolution is a surface generated by the rotation of a line about a fixed axis, called the *axis of revolution*. The quadrature of surfaces of revolution is sometimes styled the **complanation of surfaces**. Let the curve  $APQ$  (Fig. 114) generate a surface of revolution as it rotates about the fixed axis  $Ox$ . It is required to find the area of this surface. If  $dx$  and  $dy$  be made sufficiently small, we may assume that the portion  $(PQ)^2$ , or

$$(dl)^2 = (dx)^2 + (dy)^2, \quad (1)$$

as indicated above. The student is supposed to know that the area of the side of a circular cylinder is  $2\pi rh$ , where  $r$  denotes the radius of the base of the cylinder, and  $h$  the height of the cylinder. The surface,  $ds$ , of the cylinder generated by the revolution of the

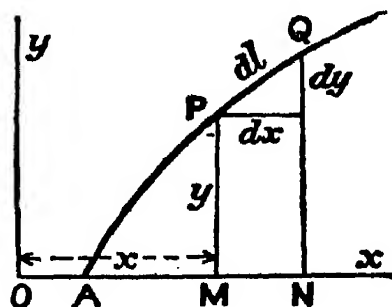


FIG. 114.

line  $dl$ , will approach the limit

$$ds = 2\pi y dl \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

as the length,  $dl$ , at  $P$  is made infinitesimally small. Hence, from (1), and (2),

$$ds = 2\pi y \sqrt{(dx)^2 + (dy)^2} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

All the elements,  $dl$ , revolving around the  $x$ -axis, will together cut out a surface having an area

$$s = 2\pi \int_{x_1}^{x_2} y \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

where  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  respectively denote the abscissæ of the portion of the curve under investigation.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the surface generated by the revolution of the slant side of a triangle. Hints. Equation of the line  $OC$  (Fig. 115) is  $y=mx$ ;  $\therefore dy=mdx$ ,  $ds = 2\pi y \sqrt{1+m^2} \cdot dx$ ,  $s = \int 2\pi m \sqrt{1+m^2} \cdot x dx = \pi m x^2 \sqrt{1+m^2} + C$ .

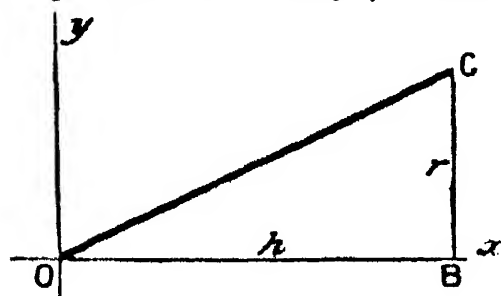


FIG. 115.

Reckon the area from the apex, where  $x=0$ , therefore  $C=0$ . If  $x=h$ —height of cone— $OB$  and the radius of the base  $=r=BC$ , then,  $m=r/h$  and

$$= \pi r \sqrt{h^2 + r^2} = 2\pi r \times \frac{1}{2} \text{ slant height.}$$

This is a well-known rule in mensuration.

(2) Show that the surface generated by the revolution of a circle is  $4\pi r^2$ . Hint.

$$x^2 + y^2 = r^2; \quad dy/dx = -x/y; \quad y = \sqrt{(r^2 - x^2)};$$

$\therefore 2\pi y \sqrt{(1 + x^2/y^2)} dx$  becomes  $2\pi r dx$  by substituting  $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$ . The limits of the integral for half the surface are  $x_2 = r$ , and  $x_1 = 0$ .

## § 86. To find the Volume of a Solid of Revolution.

This is equivalent to finding the volume of a cube of the same capacity as the given solid. Hence the process is named the **cubature of solids**. The notion of differentials will allow us to deduce a method for finding the volume of the solid figure swept out by a curve rotating about an axis of revolution. At the same

time, we can obtain a deeper insight into the meaning of the process of integration.



FIG. 116.—After Cox.

We can, in imagination, resolve the solid into a great number of elementary parallel planes, so that each plane is part of a small cylinder. Fig. 116 will, perhaps, help us to form a mental picture of the process. It is evident that the total

volume of the solid is the sum of a number of such elementary cylinders about the same axis. If  $\delta x$  be the height of one cylinder,  $y$  the radius of its base, the area of the base is  $\pi y^2$ . But the area of the base multiplied by the height of the cylinder is the volume of each elementary cylinder, that is to say,  $\pi y^2 \delta x$ . The less the height of each cylinder, the more nearly will a succession of them form a figure with a continuous surface. At the limit, when  $\delta x = 0$ , the volume,  $v$ , of the solid is

$$v = \pi \int_{x_1}^{x_2} y^2 \cdot dx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are the coordinates of the generating curve;  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  the abscissæ of the two ends of the revolving curve; and the  $x$ -axis is the axis of revolution.

The methods of limits can be used in place of the method of infinitesimals to deduce this expression, as well as (4) of the preceding section. The student can, if he wishes, look this up in some other text-book.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the volume of the cone generated by the revolution of the slant side of the triangle in Ex. 1 of the preceding section. Here  $y = mx$ ;  $dv = \pi y^2 dx = \pi m^2 x^2 dx$ .  $\therefore v = \frac{1}{3} \pi m^2 x^3 + C$ . If the volume be reckoned from the apex of the cone,  $x = 0$ , and therefore  $C = 0$ . Let  $x = h$  and  $m = r/h$ , as before, and the

$$\text{Volume of the entire cone} = \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h.$$

(2) Show that the volume generated by the revolving parabola,  $y^2 = 4ax$ , is  $\frac{1}{2} \pi y^2 x$ , where  $x$  = height and  $y$  = radius of the base.

(3) Required the volume of the sphere generated by the revolution of a circle, with the equation:  $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$ . Volume of sphere =  $\frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$ . Hint.  $v = \pi \int (r^2 - x^2) dx$ ; use limits for half the surface  $x_2 = r$ ,  $x_1 = 0$ .

## § 87. Successive Integration. Multiple Integrals.

Just as it is sometimes necessary, or convenient, to employ the second, third or the higher differential coefficients  $d^2y/dx^2$ ,  $d^3y/dx^3 \dots$ , so it is often just as necessary to apply successive integration to reverse these processes of differentiation. Suppose that it is required to reduce,  $d^2y/dx^2 = 2$ , to its original primitive form. We can write for the first integration

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 2; \quad \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right) &= 2; \quad \text{or, } d \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right) = 2dx; \quad \therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \int dx = 2x + C_1. \\ \therefore dy &= (2x + C_1)dx; \quad \text{or, } y = \int (2x + C_1)dx; \quad \therefore y = x^2 + C_1x + C_2. \end{aligned}$$

In order to show that  $d^2y/dx^2$  is to be integrated twice, we affix two symbols of integration.

$$y = \iint 2dx \cdot dx, \therefore y = x^2 + C_1x + C_2.$$

Notice that there are as many integration constants,  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ , as there are symbols of integration.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the value of  $y = \iiint x^3 \cdot dx \cdot dx \cdot dx$ . Ansr.

$$\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} x^6 + \frac{1}{2} C_1 x^2 + C_2 x + C_3.$$

(2) Integrate  $d^2s/dt^2 = g$ , where  $g$  is a constant due to the earth's gravitation,  $t$  the time and  $s$  the space traversed by a falling body.

$$\therefore s = \int \int \frac{d\left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)}{dt} = \frac{gt^2}{2} + C_1t + C_2.$$

To evaluate the constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ , when the body starts from a position of rest,  $s = 0$ ,  $t = 0$ ,  $C_1 = 0$ ,  $C_2 = 0$ .

In finding the area of a curve  $y = f(x)$ , the same result will be obtained whether we divide the area  $Oab$  into a number of strips parallel to the  $y$ -axis, as in Fig. 117, or strips parallel to the  $x$ -axis, Fig. 118. In the second case, the reader will no doubt be able to satisfy himself that the area

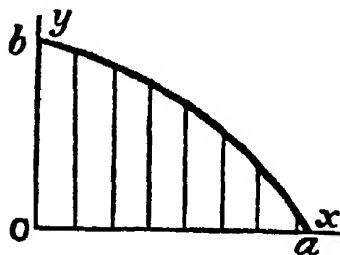


FIG. 117.—Surface Elements.

$$A = \int_0^b x \cdot dy; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

and, in the former case, that

$$A = \int_0^a y \cdot dx. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

There is another way of looking at the matter. Suppose the surface is divided up into an infinite number of infinitely small rectangles as illustrated in Fig. 119. The area of each rectangle will

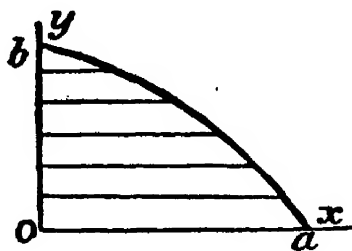


FIG. 118.—Surface Elements.

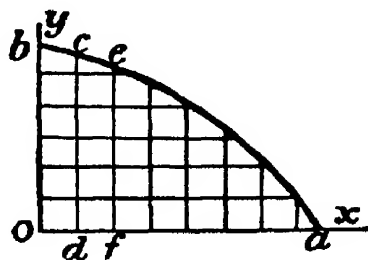


FIG. 119.—Surface Elements.

be  $dx \cdot dy$ . The area of the narrow strip  $Obcd$  is the sum of the areas of the infinite number of rectangles ranged side by side along

this strip from  $O$  to  $b$ . The length of this strip,  $y = b$ , and its width,  $dx$ , is constant; consequently,

$$\text{Area of strip } ObcO = dx \int_0^b dy.$$

The total area of the surface  $Obcd$  is obviously the sum of the areas of the infinite number of similar strips ranged along  $Oa$ . The height of the second strip, say,  $dcef$  obviously depends upon the nature of the curve  $ba$ . If the equation of this line be represented by the equation,

$$\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 1, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

the height  $y$  of any strip at a distance  $x$  from  $O$  is obtained by solving (3) for  $y$ . Consequently,

$$y = \frac{b}{a}(a - x). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

The area of any strip lying between  $O$  and  $a$  is therefore

$$\text{Area of any strip} = dx \int_0^{\frac{b(a-x)}{a}} dy = dx \left[ \int_0^{\frac{b(a-x)}{a}} dy \right] = \frac{b}{a}(a - x)dx \quad (5)$$

and it follows naturally that the area of all the strips, when each strip has an area  $b(a - x)dx/a$ , will be

$$\text{Area of all the strips} = \int_0^a \frac{b(a - x)}{a} dx = \left[ \frac{abx - \frac{1}{2}bx^2}{a} \right]_0^a = \frac{a^2b}{a} - \frac{\frac{1}{2}a^2b}{a} = \frac{ab}{2} \quad (6)$$

Combining (5) and (6), into one expression, we get

$$A = \int_0^a dx \int_0^{\frac{b(a-x)}{a}} dy = \int_0^a \int_0^{\frac{b(a-x)}{a}} dx \cdot dy, \quad . \quad (7)$$

which is called a **double integral**. This integral means that if we divide the surface into an infinite number of small rectangles—**surface elements**—and take their sum, we shall obtain the required area of the surface.

To evaluate the double integral, first integrate with respect to one variable, no matter which, and afterwards integrate with respect to the other. If we begin by keeping  $x$  constant and integrating with respect to  $y$ , as  $y$  passes from  $O$  to  $b$ , we get the area of the vertical strip  $Obcd$  (Fig. 119); we then take the sum of the rectangles in each vertical strip as  $x$  passes from  $O$  to  $a$  in



such a way as to include the whole surface  $ObaO$ . When there can be any doubt as to which differential the limits belong, the integration is performed in the following order: the right-hand element is taken with the first integration sign on the right, and so on with the next element. It just happens that there is no special advantage in resorting to double integration in the above example because the single integration involved in (1) or (2) would have been sufficient. In some cases double integration is alone practicable. The application of the integral calculus to this simple problem in mensuration may seem as incongruous as the employment of a hundred-ton steam hammer to crack nuts. But I have done this in order that the attention might be alone fixed upon the mechanism of the hammer.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that if the curve  $ab$  (Fig. 119) be represented by equation (3), then the area of the surface bounded by  $ab$ , and the two co-ordinate axes, may be variously represented by the integrals

$$\frac{a}{b} \int_0^b (b - y) dy; \frac{b}{a} \int_0^a (a - x) dx; \int_0^a \int_0^{b(a-x)/a} dy \cdot dx; \int_0^b \int_0^{a(b-y)/b} dx \cdot dy.$$

$$(2) \text{ Show } \int_2^3 \int_2^5 x \cdot dx \cdot dy = \int_2^3 x \cdot dx \left[ y \right]_2^5 = 3 \int_2^3 x \cdot dx = 3 \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_2^3 = 7\frac{1}{2}.$$

$$(8) \text{ Show } \int_0^a \int_0^b xy^2 \cdot dx \cdot dy = \frac{a^2 b^3}{6}.$$

(4) Show that the area bounded by the two parabolas  $3y^2 = 25x$ ; and  $5x^2 = 9y$  is 5 units.

The areas of curves in polar coordinates may be obtained in a similar manner. Divide the given surfaces up into slices by drawing radii vectores at an angle  $d\theta$  apart, and subdivide these slices by drawing arcs of circles with origin as centre. Consider any little

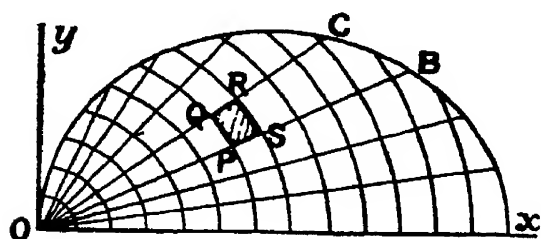


FIG. 120.

surface element, say,  $PQRS$  (Fig. 120).  $OPQ$  may be regarded as a triangle in which  $PQ = OQ \sin (d\theta)$ . But the limiting value of the sine of a very small angle is the angle itself, and since  $OQ = r$ , we have  $QP = rd\theta$ . Now  $PS$  is, by construction, equal to  $dr$ . The area of each little segment is, at the limit, equal to  $PQ \times PS$ , or

$$dA = r \cdot dr \cdot d\theta. \quad (8)$$

The total area will be found by first adding up all the surface

elements in the sector  $OBC$ , and then adding up all the sectors like  $COB$  which it contains, or,

$$A = \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} r \cdot dr \cdot d\theta. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

EXAMPLE.—Find the area of the circle whose equation is  $r = 2a \cos \theta$ , where  $r$  denotes the radius of the circle. Ansr.

$$A = \int_0^{2a \cos \theta} \int_{-\frac{\pi}{2}}^{\frac{\pi}{2}} r \cdot dr \cdot d\theta = \pi a^2.$$

We can also imagine a solid to be split up into an infinite number of little parallelopipeds along the three dimensions  $x, y, z$ . These infinitesimal figures may be called **volume elements**. The capacity of each little element  $dx \times dy \times dz$ . The total volume,  $v$ , of the solid is represented by the triple integral

$$v = \iiint dx \cdot dy \cdot dz. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

The first integration along the  $x$ -axis gives the length of an infinitely narrow strip; the integration along the  $y$ -axis gives the area of the surface of an infinitely thin slice, and a third integration along the  $z$ -axis gives the total volume of all these little slices, in other words, the volume of the body.

In the same way, quadruple and higher integrals may occur. These, however, are not very common. Multiple integration rarely extends beyond triple integrals.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Evaluate the following triple integrals:—

$$\int_1^4 \int_1^5 \int_1^6 yz^2 \cdot dx \cdot dy \cdot dz; \quad \int_1^4 \int_1^5 \int_1^6 yz^2 \cdot dy \cdot dz \cdot dx; \quad \int_1^4 \int_1^5 \int_1^6 yz^2 \cdot dz \cdot dx \cdot dy.$$

Ansr. 2580, 1550, 1470 respectively.

(2) Show

$$\int_0^a \int_0^b \left( \frac{x^2}{2p} + \frac{y^2}{2q} \right) dx \cdot dy = \frac{b}{2} \int_0^a \left( \frac{x^2}{p} + \frac{b^2}{3q} \right) dx = \frac{ab}{6} \left( \frac{a^2}{p} + \frac{b^2}{q} \right).$$

$$(3) \text{ Evaluate } 8 \int_0^r \int_0^{\sqrt{r^2-x^2}} \int_0^{\sqrt{r^2-x^2-y^2}} dx \cdot dy \cdot dz. \text{ Ansr. } \frac{4\pi r^3}{3}.$$

Note  $\sin \frac{1}{2}\pi = 1$ . Show that this integral represents the volume of a sphere whose equation is  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$ . Hint. The “ $dy$ ” integration is the most troublesome. For it, put  $r^2 - x^2 = c$ , say, and use Ex. (1), p. 203. As a result,  $\frac{1}{2}y \sqrt{r^2 - x^2 - y^2} + \frac{1}{2}(r^2 - x^2) \sin^{-1} \{y / \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}\}$  has to be evaluated between the limits  $y = \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$  and  $y = 0$ . The result is  $\frac{1}{2}(r^2 - x^2)\pi$ . The rest is simple enough.

### § 88. The Isothermal Expansion of Gases.

To find the work done during the isothermal expansion of a gas, that is, the work done when the gas changes its volume, by expansion or compression, at a constant temperature. A contraction may be regarded as a negative expansion. There are three interesting applications.

*I.—The gas obeys Boyle's law,  $pv = \text{constant}$ , say,  $c$ .* We have seen that the work done when a gas expands against any external pressure is represented by the product of the pressure into the change of volume. The work performed during any small change of volume, is

$$dW = p \cdot dv. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

But by Boyle's law,

$$p = f(v) = \frac{c}{v}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

Substitute this value of  $p$  in (1), and we get  $dW = c \cdot dv/v$ . If the gas expands from a volume  $v_1$  to a new volume  $v_2$ , it follows

$$W = c \int_{v_1}^{v_2} \frac{dv}{v} = c \left[ \log v \right]_{v_1}^{v_2} = c \log \frac{v_2}{v_1}. \quad \therefore W = p_1 v_1 \log \frac{v_2}{v_1}. \quad (3)$$

From (2),  $v_1 = c/p_1$ , and also  $v_2 = c/p_2$ , consequently

$$W = p_1 v_1 \log \frac{p_1}{p_2}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

Equations (3) and (4) play a most important part in the theory of gases, in thermodynamics and in the theory of solutions. The value of  $c$  is equal to the product of the initial volume,  $v_1$ , and pressure,  $p_1$ , of the gas. Hence we may also put

$$W = 2.3026 p_1 v_1 \log_{10} \frac{v_1}{v_2} = 2.3026 p_1 v_1 \log_{10} \frac{p_2}{p_1},$$

for the work done in compressing the gas.

**EXAMPLE.**—In an air compressor the air is drawn in at a pressure of 14.7 lb. per square inch, and compressed to 77 lb. per square inch. The volume drawn in per stroke is 1.52 cubic feet, and 133 strokes are made per minute. What is the work of isothermal compression? Hint. The work done is the compression of 1.52 cubic feet  $\times$  133 = 202.16 cubic feet of air at 14.7 lb. to 77 lb. per square inch, or  $14.7 \times 144 = 2116.8$  lb. to  $77 \times 144 = 11088$  lb. per square foot. From Boyle's law,  $p_1 v_1 = p_2 v_2$ ;  $\therefore v_2 \times 77 = 14.7 \times 202.16$ ; or,  $v_2 = 38.598$ . From the above equation, therefore, the work =  $2.3026 \times 2116.8 \times 202.16 (\log 202.16 - \log 38.598) = 708757.28$  foot pounds per minute; or, since a "horse power" can work 33,000 foot pounds per minute, the work of isothermal compression is 21.48 H.P.

II.—The gas obeys van der Waals' law, that is to say,

$$\left(p + \frac{a}{v^2}\right)(v - b) = \text{constant, say, } c.$$

As an exercise on what precedes, prove that

$$W = c \log \frac{v_2 - b}{v_1 - b} - a \left( \frac{1}{v_1} - \frac{1}{v_2} \right); \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

This equation has occupied a prominent place in the development of van der Waals' theories of the constitution of gases and liquids.

EXAMPLE.—Find the work done when two litres of carbon dioxide are compressed isothermally to one litre; given van der Waals'  $a = 0.00874$ ;  $b = 0.0023$ ;  $c = 0.00869$ . Substitute in (5), using a negative sign for contraction.

III.—The gas dissociates during expansion. By Guldberg and Waage's law, in the reaction:



for equilibrium, if  $x$  denotes that fraction of unit mass of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  which exists as  $\text{NO}_2$ , we must have

$$K \frac{1-x}{v} = \frac{x}{v} \cdot \frac{x}{v}.$$

where  $(1-x)/v$  represents the concentration of the undissociated nitrogen peroxide. The relation between the volume and degree of dissociation is, therefore,

$$Kv = \frac{x^2}{1-x}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

If  $n$  represents the original number of molecules;  $(1-x)n$  will represent the number of undissociated molecules; and  $2xn$  the number of dissociated molecules. If the relation  $pv = c$  does not vary during the expansion, the pressure will be proportional to the number of molecules actually present, that is to say, if  $p$  denotes the pressure when there was no dissociation, and  $p'$  the actual pressure of the gas,

$$\frac{p}{p'} = \frac{n}{(1-x)n + 2xn} = \frac{1}{1+x}.$$

The actual pressure of the gas is, therefore,  $p' = (1+x)p$ ; and the work done is,

$$dW = p' \cdot dv = (1+x)p \cdot dv = p \cdot dv + xp \cdot dv. \quad . \quad (7)$$

From Boyle's law, and (6), we see that

$$\therefore p = \frac{c}{v} = \frac{cK(1-x)}{x^2}.$$

Substitute this value of  $p$  in (7). Differentiate (6) and we obtain

$$\frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{2(1-x)x + x^2}{K(1-x)^2}; \therefore dv = \frac{x(2-x)}{K(1-x)^2} dx.$$

Now substitute this value of  $dv$  in (7); simplify, and we get

$$W = c \int_{v_1}^{v_2} \frac{dv}{v} + c \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{1-x}\right) dx,$$

where  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  denote the values of  $x$  corresponding with  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . On integration, therefore,

$$W = c \left( \log \frac{v_2}{v_1} + x_2 - x_1 - \log \frac{1-x_2}{1-x_1} \right). \quad (8)$$

It follows directly from (6), that

$$v_1 = \frac{x_1^2}{K(1-x_1)}; \text{ and, } v_2 = \frac{x_2^2}{K(1-x_2)}.$$

Substitute these values of  $v$  in (8), and the work of expansion

$$W = c \left\{ x_2 - x_1 - 2 \log \frac{x_1(1-x_2)}{x_2(1-x_1)} \right\}. \quad (9)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the work done during the isothermal expansion of dissociating ammonium carbamate (gas):  $\text{NH}_2\text{COONH}_4 \rightleftharpoons 2\text{NH}_3 + \text{CO}_2$ .

(2) In calculating the work done during the isothermal expansion of dissociating hydrogen iodide,  $2\text{HI} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2 + \text{I}_2$ , does it make any difference whether the hydrogen iodide dissociates or not?

(3) A particle of mass  $m$  moves towards a centre of force  $F$  which varies inversely as the square of the distance. Determine the work done by the force as it moves from one place  $r_2$  to another place  $r_1$ . Work = force  $\times$  displacement

$$\therefore W = \int_{r_1}^{r_2} F \cdot dr = \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{m}{r^2} dr = m \left( \frac{1}{r_2} - \frac{1}{r_1} \right).$$

If  $r$  is infinite,  $W = m/r$ . If the body moves towards the centre of attraction work is done by the force; if away from the centre of attraction, work is done against the central force.

(4) If the force of attraction,  $F$ , between two molecules of a gas, varies inversely as the fourth power of the distance,  $r$ , between them, show that the work,  $W$ , done against molecular attractive forces when a gas expands into a vacuum, is proportional to the difference between the initial and final pressures of the gas. That is,  $W = A(p_1 - p_2)$ , where  $A$  is the variation constant. By hypothesis,  $F = a/r^4$ ; and  $dW = F \cdot dr$ , where  $a$  is another variation constant. Hence,

$$W = \int_{r_1}^{r_2} F \cdot dr = a \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{dr}{r^4}.$$

But  $r$  is linear, therefore, the volume of the gas will vary as  $r^3$ . Hence,  $v = br^3$ , where  $b$  is again constant.

$$\therefore W = \frac{a}{3} \left( \frac{1}{r_1^3} - \frac{1}{r_2^3} \right); \therefore W = \frac{ab}{3} \left( \frac{1}{v_1} - \frac{1}{v_2} \right).$$

But by Boyle's law,  $pv = \text{constant}$ , say,  $c$ . Hence if  $A = ab/3c = \text{constant}$ ,

$$W = A(p_1 - p_2).$$

(5) If the work done against molecular attractive forces when a gas expands into a vacuum, is

$$W = \int_{v_1}^{v_2} \frac{a}{v^2} dv = a \left( \frac{1}{v_1} - \frac{1}{v_2} \right),$$

where  $a$  is constant;  $v_1, v_2$ , refer to the initial and final volumes of the gas, show that "any two molecules of a gas will attract one another with a force inversely proportional to the fourth power of the distance between them". For the meaning of  $a/v^2$ , see van der Waals' equation.

### § 89. The Adiabatic Expansion of Gases.

When the gas is in such a condition that no heat can enter or leave the system during the change of volume—expansion or contraction—the temperature will generally change during the operation. This alters the magnitude of the work of expansion. Let us first find the relation between  $p$  and  $v$  when no heat enters or leaves the gas while the gas changes its volume. Boyle's relation is obscured if the gas be not kept at a constant temperature.

*I.—The relation between the pressure and the volume of a gas when the volume of the gas changes adiabatically.* In example (5) appended to § 27, we obtained the expression,

$$dQ = \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial v} \right)_p dv + \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} \right)_v dp. \quad (1)$$

As pointed out on page 44, we may, without altering the value of the expression, multiply and divide each term within the brackets by  $\partial T$ . Thus,

$$dQ = \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial T} \frac{\partial T}{\partial v} \right)_p dv + \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial T} \frac{\partial T}{\partial p} \right)_v dp. \quad (2)$$

But  $(\partial Q/\partial T)_p$  is the amount of heat added to the substance at a constant pressure for a small change of temperature; this is none other than the specific heat at constant pressure, usually written  $C_p$ . Similarly  $(\partial Q/\partial T)_v$  is the specific heat at constant volume, written  $C_v$ . Consequently,

$$dQ = C_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial v} \right)_p dv + C_v \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial p} \right)_v dp. \quad (3)$$

This equation tells that when a certain quantity of heat is added to a substance, one part is spent in raising the temperature while the volume changes under constant pressure, and the other part is spent in raising the temperature while the pressure changes under constant volume. For an ideal gas obeying Boyle's law,

$$pv = RT; \therefore \frac{v}{R} = \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial p}\right)_v; \frac{p}{R} = \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial v}\right)_p.$$

Substitute these values in (3), and we get

$$dQ = C_p \frac{p}{R} dv + C_v \frac{v}{R} dp; \therefore \frac{dQ}{\theta} = C_p \frac{dv}{v} + C_v \frac{dp}{p}, \quad (4)$$

after dividing through with  $\theta = pv/R$ . By definition, an adiabatic change takes place when the system neither gains nor loses heat. Under these conditions,  $dQ = 0$ ; and remembering that the ratio of the two specific heats  $C_p/C_v$  is a constant, usually written  $\gamma$ ;

$$\therefore \frac{C_p}{C_v} \cdot \frac{dv}{v} + \frac{dp}{p} = 0; \text{ or, } \gamma \int \frac{dv}{v} + \int \frac{dp}{p} = \text{Constant.}$$

or,  $\gamma \log v + \log p = \text{const.}$ ; or,  $\log v^\gamma + \log p = \text{const.}$ ;  $\therefore \log(pv^\gamma) = \text{const.}$

$$\therefore pv^\gamma = c. \quad (5)$$

A most important relation sometimes called Poisson's equation.

By integrating between the limits  $p_1, p_2$ ; and  $v_1, v_2$  in the above equation, we could have eliminated the constant and obtained (5) in another form, namely,

$$\frac{p_2}{p_1} = \left(\frac{v_1}{v_2}\right)^\gamma. \quad (6)$$

The last two equations tell us that the adiabatic pressure of a gas varies inversely as the  $\gamma$ th power of the volume. Now substitute  $v_1 = T_1 R/p_1$ ; and  $v_2 = T_2 R/p_2$ , in (6), the result is that

$$\left(\frac{p_2}{p_1} \cdot \frac{T_1}{T_2}\right)^\gamma = \frac{p_2}{p_1}; \text{ or, } \left(\frac{T_1}{T_2}\right)^\gamma = \left(\frac{p_2}{p_1}\right) \left(\frac{p_1}{p_2}\right)^\gamma; \text{ i.e., } \left(\frac{T_1}{T_2}\right)^\gamma = \left(\frac{p_1}{p_2}\right)^{\gamma-1} \quad (7)$$

and the relation between the volume and temperature of a gas under adiabatic conditions assumes the form,

$$\frac{T_2}{T_1} = \left(\frac{v_1}{v_2}\right)^{\gamma-1}. \quad (8)$$

This equation affirms that for adiabatic changes, the absolute temperature of a gas varies inversely as the  $(\gamma - 1)$ th power of the volume. A well-known thermodynamic law.

Again, since "weight varies directly as the volume," if  $w_1$

denotes the weight of  $v$  volumes of the gas at a pressure  $p_1$  and  $w_2$  the weight of the same volume, at a pressure  $p_2$ , we see at once, from (6), that

$$\frac{w_2}{w_1} = \left(\frac{p_2}{p_1}\right)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

II.—*The work performed when a gas is compressed under adiabatic conditions.* From (5),  $p = c/v^\gamma$ ; and we know that the work done when  $v$  volumes of a gas are compressed from  $v_1$  to  $v_2$ , is

$$W = - \int_{v_1}^{v_2} p \cdot dv = - \int_{v_1}^{v_2} \frac{c}{v^\gamma} dv = - c \left[ \frac{v^{-(\gamma-1)}}{-(\gamma-1)} \right]_{v_1}^{v_2},$$

$$\therefore W = \frac{c}{\gamma-1} \left( \frac{1}{v_2^{\gamma-1}} - \frac{1}{v_1^{\gamma-1}} \right). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

From (5),  $c = p_1 v_1^\gamma = p_2 v_2^\gamma$ . We may, therefore, represent this relation in another form, *viz.* :

$$\frac{c}{\gamma-1} \left( \frac{1}{v_2^{\gamma-1}} - \frac{1}{v_1^{\gamma-1}} \right) = \frac{1}{\gamma-1} \left( \frac{p_1 v_1^\gamma}{v_2^{\gamma-1}} - \frac{p_1 v_1^\gamma}{v_1^{\gamma-1}} \right) = \frac{1}{\gamma-1} \left( \frac{p_2 v_2^\gamma}{v_2^{\gamma-1}} - \frac{p_1 v_1^\gamma}{v_1^{\gamma-1}} \right).$$

$$\therefore W = \frac{1}{\gamma-1} (p_2 v_2 - p_1 v_1). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (11)$$

If a gas *expands* adiabatically from a pressure  $p_1$  to a pressure  $p_2$ , we get, from (5) and (11),

$$W = \frac{1}{\gamma-1} \left( p_1^{1-\frac{1}{\gamma}} - p_2^{1-\frac{1}{\gamma}} \right) c^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} = \frac{1}{\gamma-1} \left( p_1^{1-\frac{1}{\gamma}} - p_2^{1-\frac{1}{\gamma}} \right) p_1^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}, \quad (12)$$

provided we work with unit volume,  $v_1 = 1$ , of gas, so that  $p_1 = c$ .

If  $p_1 v_1 = RT_1$ ; and  $p_2 v_2 = RT_2$ , are the isothermal equations for  $T_1^\circ$  and  $T_2^\circ$ , we may write,

$$W = \frac{R}{\gamma-1} (T_2 - T_1), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (13)$$

which states in words, that the work required to compress a mass of gas adiabatically while the temperature changes from  $T_1^\circ$  to  $T_2^\circ$ , will be independent of the initial pressure and volume of the gas. In other words, the work done by a perfect gas in passing along an adiabatic curve, from one isothermal to another, page 111, is constant and independent of the path.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Two litres of a gas are compressed adiabatically to one litre. What is the work done? Given  $\gamma = 1.4$ ; atmospheric pressure  $p = 1.03$  kilograms per sq. cm. Ansr. 16.48 kilogram metres. Hint.  $v_2 = \frac{1}{2}v_1$ ; from (6),  $p_2 = p_1 2^\gamma$ ;  $v_1 = 2000$  c.c. From a table of common logs,  $\log 2^\gamma = \log 2^{1.4} = 0.30103 \times 1.4 = 0.4214$ ; or  $2^{1.4} = 2.64$ . From (11),



$$W = \frac{v_2 p_1 \cdot 2^{1.4} - v_1 p_1}{\gamma - 1} = \frac{v_1 p_1 (\frac{1}{2} \times 2^{1.4} - 1)}{1.4 - 1} = \frac{1.03 \times 2000}{0.4} (1.32 - 1), \text{ etc.}$$

(2) To continue illustration 3, § 20, page 62. We have assumed Boyle's law  $p_2 p_1 = p_1 p_2$ . This is only true under isothermal conditions. For a more correct result, use (5) above. For a constant mass,  $m$ , of gas,  $m = \rho v$ , hence show that for adiabatic conditions,

$$\frac{p_2}{p_1} = \left(\frac{\rho_2}{\rho_1}\right)^\gamma; \therefore p_2^{1-\frac{1}{\gamma}} = p_1^{1-\frac{1}{\gamma}} e^{-\frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma} \alpha} \quad (14)$$

is the more correct form of Halley's law for the pressure,  $p_2$ , of the atmosphere at a height  $h$  above sea-level. Atmospheric pressure at sea-level =  $p_1$ .

(3) From the preceding example proceed to show that the rate of diminution of temperature,  $T$ , is constant per unit distance,  $h$ , ascent. In other words, prove and interpret

$$T_0 - T = \frac{1}{R} \cdot \frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma} h \quad (15)$$

(4) A litre of gas at  $0^\circ \text{C}$ . is allowed to expand adiabatically to two litres. Find the fall of temperature given  $\gamma = 1.4$ . Ansr.  $66^\circ \text{C}$ . (nearly). Hints.  $v_1 = 2v_2$ ; from (8),  $T_2 \times 2^{0.4} = 273$ ;  $2^{0.4} = 1.32$ ,  $\therefore T_2 = 207^\circ$ ; there is therefore a fall of  $273 - 207^\circ$  absolute, =  $66^\circ \text{C}$ .

(5) To continue the discussion §§ 15 and 64, suppose the gas obeys van der Waals' law:

$$\left(p + \frac{a}{v^2}\right)(v - b) = RT \quad (16)$$

where  $R$ ,  $a$ ,  $b$ , are known constants. The first law of thermodynamics may be written

$$dQ = C_v \cdot dT + (p + a/v^2)dv, \quad (17)$$

where the specific heat at constant volume has been assumed constant. To find a value for  $C_p$ , the specific heat at constant pressure. Expand (16). Differentiate the result. Cancel the term  $2ab \cdot dv/v^3$  as a very small order of magnitude (§ 4). Solve the result for  $dv$ . Multiply through with  $p + a/v^2$ . Since  $a/v^2$  is very small, show that the fraction  $(p + a/v^2)/(p - a/v^2)$  is very nearly  $1 + 2a/pv^2$ . Substitute the last result in (17), and

$$dQ = \left\{C_v + R\left(1 + \frac{2a}{pv^2}\right)\right\} dT - \left(1 + \frac{2a}{pv^2}\right)(v - b)dp.$$

By hypothesis  $C_v$  is constant,

$$\therefore \frac{C_p}{C_v} = 1 + \frac{R}{C_v} \left(1 + \frac{2a}{pv^2}\right) \quad (18)$$

For ideal gases  $a = 0$ , and we get Mayer's equation, § 27. From Boynton, p. 114;

For.	Air.	Hydrogen.	Carbon Dioxide.
$\alpha$ .	0.002812	0.0000895	0.00874
$R/C_v$ .	0.4	0.4	0.2857
$\gamma$ Calculated (18)	1.40225	1.40007	1.2907
$\gamma$ Observed	1.403	1.4017	1.2911

(6) Show van der Waals' equation for adiabatic conditions is

$$\left(p + \frac{a}{v^2}\right)(v - b)^\gamma = RT, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (19)$$

and the work of adiabatic expansion is

$$W = R(T_1 - T_2) \left\{ \frac{1}{\gamma - 1} - a \left( \frac{1}{v_1} - \frac{1}{v_2} \right) \right\}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (20)$$

(7) Calculate the work done by a gas which is compressed adiabatically from a state represented by the point *A* (Fig. 121) along the path *AB* until a state *B* is reached. It is then allowed to expand isothermally along the path *BC* until a state *C* is reached. This is followed by an adiabatic expansion along *CD*; and by an isothermal contraction along *DA* until the original state *A* is reached. The total work done is obviously represented by the sum of

$$- AabB + BCcb + CDdc - DdaA.$$

By evaluating the work in each operation as indicated in the last two sections, on the assumption that the equation of *AB* is  $pv^\gamma = c_1$ ; of *BC*,  $pv = c_2$ ; *CD*

$pv^\gamma = c_3$ ; *DA*,  $pv = c_4$ . Hence show that the external work, *W*, done by the gas, is

$$W = \frac{c_2 - c_4}{\gamma - 1} \log \frac{c_3}{c_1}.$$

(8) Compare the work of isothermal and adiabatic compression in the example on page 254. Take  $\gamma$  for air = 1.408. Hint. From (6),  $14.7 \times 206.16^{1.408} = 77 \times v_2^{1.408}$ ;  $\therefore v_2 = 62.36$  cubic feet; and from (10),  $(62.36 \times 11,088 - 202.16 \times 2116.8)/0.408 = 645.871$  foot lbs. per minute = 19.75 H.P. The required ratio is therefore as 1 : 0.91.

(9) If a gas flows adiabatically from one place where the pressure is  $p_1$  to another place where the pressure is  $p_2$ , the work of expansion is spent in communicating kinetic energy to the gas. Let *V* be the velocity of flow. The kinetic energy gained by the gas is equal to the work done. But kinetic energy is, by definition,  $\frac{1}{2}mV^2$ , where *m* is the mass of the substance set in motion; but we know that mass = weight  $\div$  *g*, hence, if  $w_1$  denotes the weight of gas flowing per second from a pressure  $p_1$  to a pressure  $p_2$ ,

$$\therefore \frac{mV^2}{2} = \frac{w_1V^2}{2g} = W; \therefore V = \sqrt{\frac{2g}{w_1}W}.$$

If *a* denotes the cross sectional area of the flowing gas, obviously,  $w_1 = aVw_2$ , where  $w_2$  denotes the weight of unit volume of the gas at a pressure  $p_2$ . Let  $p_2/p_1 = q$ . From (9),  $w_2 = w_1q^{1/\gamma}$ . Hence the weight of gas

$$w_1 = aVw_2 = a\sqrt{\frac{2gw_2^2}{w_1(\gamma - 1)}} \left( p_1^{1 - \frac{1}{\gamma}} - p_2^{1 - \frac{1}{\gamma}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} p_1^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}.$$

Now multiply through with  $p_1^{1/\gamma}$ ; then with the denominator of  $p_1/p_1$ ; then with  $w_2/w_1$ , or, what is the same thing, with  $q^{1/\gamma}$ ; substitute  $w_2 = w_1q^{1/\gamma}$ , and multiply through with the last result. The weight of gas which passes per

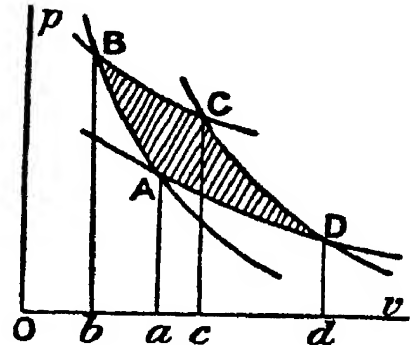


FIG. 121.

second from a pressure  $p_1$  to a pressure  $p_2$  is then

$$w_1 = a \sqrt{\frac{2gw_2p_1}{\gamma - 1} \left( q^{\frac{2}{\gamma}} - q^{1 + \frac{1}{\gamma}} \right)}.$$

$w_1$  will be a maximum when

$$q = \frac{1}{2}(\gamma + 1)^{\frac{\gamma}{1 - \gamma}}.$$

For dry steam,  $\gamma = 1.13$ , and hence,

$$\log_e q = -8.7 \times \log_e 1.065 = 1.762; \therefore q = 0.58; \text{ or, } p_2 = 0.58p_1;$$

or there will be a maximum flow when the external pressure is a little more than half the supply pressure. This conclusion was verified by the experiments of Navier.

## § 90. The Influence of Temperature on Chemical and Physical Changes.

On page 82, (18), we deduced the formula,

$$\left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial v} \right)_T = T \left( \frac{\partial p}{\partial T} \right), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

by a simple process of mathematical reasoning. The physical signification of this formula is that the change in the quantity of heat communicated to any substance per unit change of volume at constant temperature, is equal to the product of the absolute temperature into the change of pressure per unit change of temperature at constant volume.

Suppose that  $1 - x$  grams of one system A is in equilibrium with  $x$  grams of another system B. Let  $v$  denote the total volume, and  $T$  the temperature of the two systems. Equation (1) shows that  $(\partial Q / \partial v)_T$  is, the heat absorbed when the very large volume of system A is increased by unity at constant temperature  $T$ , less the work done during expansion. Suppose that during this change of volume, a certain quantity  $(\partial x / \partial v)_T$  of system B is formed, then, if  $q$  be the amount of heat absorbed when unit quantity of the first system is converted into the second, the quantity of heat absorbed during this transformation is  $q(\partial x / \partial v)_T$ .  $q$  is really the molecular heat of the reaction.

The work done during this change of volume is  $p \cdot dv$ ; but  $dv$  is unity, hence the external work of expansion is  $p$ . Under these circumstances,

$$q \left( \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \right)_T = \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial v} \right)_T - p = T \left( \frac{\partial p}{\partial T} \right)_T - p = \frac{T \partial p - p \partial T}{\partial T}, \quad (2)$$

from (1). Now multiply and divide the numerator by the integrating factor,  $T^2$ ;

$$\therefore q\left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial v}\right)_T = T^2 \left(\frac{\partial \frac{p}{T}}{\partial T}\right)_v. \quad (3)$$

If, now,  $n_1$  molecules of the system A; and  $n_2$  molecules of the system B, take part in the reaction, we must write, instead of  $pv = RT$ ,

$$pv = RT\{n_1(1-x) + n_2x\}; \text{ or, } \frac{p}{T} = \frac{R\{n_1 + (n_2 - n_1)x\}}{v}.$$

The reason for this is well worth puzzling out. Differentiate with respect to  $(p/T)$  and  $x$ ; divide by  $\partial T$ ; and

$$\left(\frac{\partial \frac{p}{T}}{\partial T}\right)_v = \frac{R}{v} (n_2 - n_1) \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial T}\right)_v.$$

Substitute this result in equation (3), and we obtain

$$q\left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial v}\right)_T = \frac{T^2 R}{v} (n_2 - n_1) \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial T}\right)_v. \quad (4)$$

By Guldberg and Waage's statement of the mass law, when  $n_1$  molecules of the one system react with  $n_2$  molecules of the other,

$$\left(\frac{x}{v}\right)^{n_2} = K \left(\frac{1-x}{v}\right)^{n_1}.$$

Hence, taking logarithms,

$$\log K + (n_2 - n_1) \log v = n_2 \log x - n_1 \log (1-x).$$

Differentiate this last expression with respect to  $T$ , at constant volume; and with respect to  $v$ , at constant temperature,

$$\left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial v}\right)_T = \frac{n_2 - n_1}{v \left(\frac{n_2}{x} + \frac{n_1}{1-x}\right)}; \quad \left(\frac{\partial x}{\partial T}\right)_v = \frac{\frac{\partial \log K}{\partial T}}{\frac{n_2}{x} + \frac{n_1}{1-x}}.$$

Introduce these values in (4) and reduce the result to its simplest terms, thus,

$$\frac{\partial \log K}{\partial T} = \frac{q}{RT^2}. \quad (5)$$

This fundamental relation expresses the change of the equilibrium constant  $K$  with temperature at constant volume in terms of the molecular heat of the reaction.

Equation (5), first deduced by van't Hoff, has led to some of the most important results of physical chemistry. Since  $R$  and  $T$  are positive,  $K$  and  $q$  must always have the same sign. Hence *van't Hoff's principle of mobile equilibrium* follows directly, *viz.*, If the reaction absorbs heat, it advances with rise of temperature; if the reaction evolves heat it retrogrades with rise of temperature; and if the reaction neither absorbs nor evolves heat, the state of equilibrium is stationary with rise of temperature.

According to the particular nature of the systems considered  $q$  may represent the so-called heat of sublimation, heat of vaporization, heat of solution, heat of dissociation, or the thermal value of strictly chemical reactions when certain simple modifications are made in the interpretation of the "concentration"  $K$ . If, at temperature  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ ,  $K$  becomes  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ , we get, by the integration of (5),

$$\log \frac{K_2}{K_1} = \frac{q}{2} \left( \frac{1}{T_1} - \frac{1}{T_2} \right). \quad (6)$$

The thermal values of the different molecular changes, calculated by means of this equation, are in close agreement with experiment. For instance :

Heat of	$q$ in calories.	
	Calculated.	Observed.
Vaporization of water . . . . .	10100	10296
Solution of benzoic acid in water . . . . .	6700	6500
Sublimation of $\text{NH}_4\text{SH}$ . . . . .	21550	21640
Combination of $\text{BaCl}_2 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . . . . .	3815	3880
Dissociation of $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ . . . . .	12900	12500
Precipitation of $\text{AgCl}$ . . . . .	15992	15850

A sufficiently varied assortment to show the profound nature of the relation symbolized by equations (5) and (6).

NUMERICAL EXAMPLE.—Calculate the heat of solution of mercuric chloride from the change of solubility with change of temperature. If  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$  denote the solubilities corresponding to the respective absolute temperatures  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ ,

$$c_1 = 6.57 \text{ when } T_1 = 273^\circ + 10^\circ; \quad c_2 = 11.84 \text{ when } T_2 = 273^\circ + 50^\circ.$$

Since the solubility of a salt in a given solvent is constant at any fixed temperature, we may write  $c$  in place of the equilibrium constant  $K$ . From (6), therefore,

$$\log \frac{c_2}{c_1} = \frac{q}{2} \left( \frac{1}{T_1} - \frac{1}{T_2} \right); \therefore \log \frac{11.84}{6.57} = \frac{q}{2} \left( \frac{1}{288} - \frac{1}{328} \right).$$

$\therefore q = \log 1.8 \times 45,704.5 = 2,700$  (nearly);  $q$  (observed)  $\approx 8,000$  (nearly).

Use the Table of Natural Logarithms, Appendix II., for the calculation.

Le Chatelier has extended van't Hoff's law and enunciated the important generalization: "any change in the factors of equilibrium from outside, is followed by a reversed change within the system". This rule, known as "Le Chatelier's theorem," enables the chemist to foresee the influence of pressure and other agents on physical and chemical equilibria.

## CHAPTER V.

### INFINITE SERIES AND THEIR USES.

“In abstract mathematical theorems, the approximation to truth is perfect. . . . In physical science, on the contrary, we treat of the least quantities which are perceptible.”—W. STANLEY JEVONS.

#### § 91. What is an Infinite Series ?

MARK off a distance  $AB$  (Fig. 122) of unit length. Bisect  $AB$  at  $O_1$ ; bisect  $O_1B$  at  $O_2$ ;  $O_2B$  at  $O_3$ ; etc.

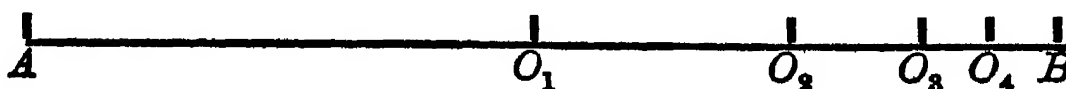


FIG. 122.

By continuing this operation, we can approach as near to  $B$  as we please. In other words, if we take a sufficient number of terms of the series,

$$AO_1 + O_1O_2 + O_2O_3 + \dots,$$

we shall obtain a result differing from  $AB$  by as small a quantity as ever we please. This is the geometrical meaning of the infinite series of terms,

$$1 = \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 + \dots \text{ to infinity.} \quad (1)$$

Such an expression, in which the successive terms are related according to a known law, is called a **series**.

**EXAMPLE.**—I may now be pardoned if I recite the old fable of Achilles and the tortoise. Achilles goes ten times as fast as the tortoise and the latter has ten feet start. When Achilles has gone ten feet the tortoise is one foot in front of him; when Achilles has gone one foot farther the tortoise is  $\frac{1}{10}$  ft. in front; when Achilles has gone  $\frac{1}{10}$  ft. farther the tortoise is  $\frac{1}{100}$  ft. in front; and so on without end; therefore Achilles will never catch the tortoise. There is a fallacy somewhere of course, but where?

When the sum of an infinite series approaches closer and closer to some definite finite value, as the number of terms is increased

without limit, the series is said to be a **convergent series**. The sum of a convergent series is the "limiting value" of § 6. On the contrary, if the sum of an infinite series obtained by taking a sufficient number of terms can be made greater than any finite quantity, however large, the series is said to be a **divergent series**. For example,

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \dots \text{ to infinity.} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

Divergent series are not much used in physical work, while converging series are very frequently employed.<sup>1</sup>

The student should be able to discriminate between convergent and divergent series. I shall give tests very shortly. To simplify matters, it may be assumed that the series discussed in this work satisfy the tests of convergency. It is necessary to bear this in mind, otherwise we may be led to absurd conclusions. E. W. Hobson's *On the Infinite and Infinitesimal in Mathematical Analysis*, London, 1902, is an interesting pamphlet to read at this stage of our work.

Let  $S$  denote the limiting value or sum of the converging series,

$$S = a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^n + ar^{n+1} + \dots \text{ ad inf.} \quad (3)$$

When  $r$  is less than unity, cut off the series at some assigned term, say the  $n$ th, *i.e.*, all terms after  $ar^{n-1}$  are suppressed. Let  $s_n$  denote the sum of the  $n$  terms retained,  $\sigma_n$  the sum of the suppressed terms. Then,

$$s_n = a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^{n-1}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

Multiply through by  $r$ ,

$$rs_n = ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots + ar^n.$$

Subtract the last expression from (4),

$$s_n(1 - r) = a(1 - r^n); \text{ or, } s_n = a \frac{1 - r^n}{1 - r}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

Obviously we can write series (3), in the form,

$$S = s_n + \sigma_n. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

The error which results when the first  $n$  terms are taken to represent the series, is given by the expression

$$\sigma_n = S - s_n.$$

This error can be made to vanish by taking an infinitely great

---

<sup>1</sup> A prize was offered in France some time back for the best essay on the use of diverging series in physical mathematics.



number of terms, or,  $\text{Lt}_{n=\infty} \sigma_n = 0$ . But,

$$s_n = a \frac{1 - r^n}{1 - r} = \frac{a}{1 - r} - \frac{ar^n}{1 - r}.$$

When  $n$  is made infinitely great, the last term vanishes,

$$\therefore \text{Lt}_{n=\infty} \frac{ar^n}{1 - r} = 0.$$

The sum of the infinite series of terms (3), is, therefore, given by the expression

$$S = \frac{a}{1 - r}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

Series (3) is generally called a **geometrical series**. If  $r$  is either equal to or greater than unity,  $S$  is infinitely great when  $n = \infty$ , the series is then divergent.

*To determine the magnitude of the error introduced when only a finite number of terms of an infinite series is taken.* Take the infinite number of terms,

$$S = \frac{1}{1 - r} = 1 + r + r^2 + \dots + r^{n-1} + \frac{r^n}{1 - r}. \quad (8)$$

The error introduced into the sum  $S$ , by the omission of all terms after the  $n$ th, is, therefore,

$$\sigma_n = \frac{r^n}{1 - r}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

When  $r$  is positive,  $\sigma_n$  is positive, and the result is a little too small; but if  $r$  is negative

$$\sigma_n = \pm \frac{r^n}{1 - r}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

which means that if all terms after the  $n$ th are omitted, the sum obtained will be too great or too small, according as  $n$  is odd or even.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Suppose that the electrical conductivity of an organic acid at different concentrations has to be measured and that the first measurement is made on 50 c.c. of solution of concentration  $c$ . 25 c.c. of this solution are then removed and 25 c.c. of distilled water added instead. This is repeated five more times. What is the then concentration of the acid in the electrolytic cell? Obviously we are required to find the 7th term in the series  $c\{1 + \frac{1}{2} + (\frac{1}{2})^2 + (\frac{1}{2})^3 + \dots\}$ , where the  $n$ th term is  $c(\frac{1}{2})^{n-1}$ . Ansr.  $(\frac{1}{2})^6 c$ .

(2) If the receiver of an air pump and connections have a volume  $a$ , and the cylinder with the piston at the top has a volume  $b$ , the first stroke of the pump will remove  $b$  of the air. Hence show that the density of the air in the receiver after the third stroke will be 0.75 of its original density if  $a = 1000$  c.c., and  $b = 100$  c.c. Hint. After the first stroke the density of the

air,  $\rho_1$ , will be  $\rho_1(a+b) = \rho_0 a$ , when  $\rho_0$  denotes the original density of the air; after the second stroke the density will be  $\rho_2$ , and  $\rho_2(a+b) = \rho_1 a$ ;  $\therefore \rho_2(a+b)^2 = \rho_0 a$ . After the  $n$ th stroke,  $\rho_n(a+b)^n = \rho_0 a^n$ ; or  $\rho_n(1000+100)^3 = 1000^3$ ;  $\therefore \rho_n = 0.73$ .

### § 92. Washing Precipitates.

Applications of the series to the washing of organic substances with ether; to the washing of precipitates; to Mallet's process for separating oxygen from air by shaking air with water, etc., are obvious. We can imagine a precipitate placed upon a filter paper, and suppose that  $C_0$  represents the concentration of the mother liquid which is to be washed from the precipitate; let  $v$  denote the volume of the liquid which remains behind after the precipitate has drained;  $v_1$  the volume of liquid poured on to the precipitate in the filter paper.

EXAMPLES.—(1) A precipitate at the bottom of a beaker which holds  $v$  c.c. of mother liquid is to be washed by decantation, *i.e.*, by repeatedly filling the beaker up to say the  $v_1$  c.c. mark with distilled water and emptying. Suppose that the precipitate and vessel retain  $v$  c.c. of the liquid in the beaker at each decantation, what will be the percentage volume of mother liquor about the precipitate after the  $n$ th emptying, assuming that the volume of the precipitate is negligibly small? Ansr.  $100(v/v_1)^{n-1}$ . Hint. The solution in the beaker, after the first filling, has  $v/v_1$  c.c. of mother liquid. On emptying,  $v$  of this  $v/v_1$  c.c. is retained by the precipitate. On refilling, the solution in the beaker has  $(v^2/v_1)/v_1$  of mother liquor, and so we build up the series,

$$v\left\{1 + \frac{v}{v_1} + \left(\frac{v}{v_1}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{v}{v_1}\right)^3 + \dots\right\}.$$

(2) Show that the residual liquid which remains with the precipitate after the first, second and  $n$ th washings is respectively

$$vC_1 = \frac{v}{v+v_1} vC_0; \quad vC_2 = \left(\frac{v}{v+v_1}\right)^2 vC_0; \quad vC_n = \left(\frac{v}{v+v_1}\right)^n vC_0.$$

It is thus easy to see that the residue of mother liquid  $vC_n$  which contaminates the precipitate, as impurity, is smaller the less the value of  $v/(v+v_1)$ ; this fraction, in turn, is smaller the less the value of  $v$ , and the greater the value of  $v_1$ . Hence it is inferred that (i) the more perfectly the precipitate is allowed to drain—lessening  $v$ ; and (ii) the greater the volume of washing liquid employed—increasing  $v_1$ —the more perfectly effective will be the washing of the precipitate.

EXAMPLE.—Show that if the amount of liquid poured on to the precipitate at each washing is nine times the amount of residual liquid retained by the precipitate on the filter paper, then, if the amount of impurity contaminating the original precipitate be one gram, show that 0.0001 gram of impurity will remain after the fourth washing.

What simplifying assumptions have been made in this discussion? We have assumed that the impurity on the filter paper is reduced a  $v_1$ th part when  $v_1$  volumes of the washing liquid is poured on to the precipitate, and the latter is allowed to drain. We have neglected the amount of impurity which adheres very tenaciously, by surface condensation or absorption. The washing is, in consequence, less thorough than the simplified theory would lead us to suppose. Here is a field for investigation. Can we make the plausible assumption that the amount of impurity absorbed is proportional to the concentration of the solution? Let us find how this would affect the amount of impurity contaminating the precipitate after the  $n$ th washing.

Let  $a$  denote the amount of solution retained as impurity by surface condensation, let  $b$  denote the concentration of the solution. If we make the above-mentioned assumption, then

$$b = ka,$$

where  $k$  is the constant of proportion. Let  $v$  c.c. of washing liquid be added to the precipitate which has absorbed  $a$  c.c. of mother liquid. Then  $a_0 - a_1$  c.c. of impurity passes into solution, and with the  $v$  c.c. of solvent gives a solution of concentration  $(a_0 - a_1)/v$ ; the amount of impurity remaining with the precipitate will be

$$\frac{a_0 - a_1}{v} = ka_1. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (11)$$

When this solution has drained off, and  $v$  more c.c. of washing liquid is added, the amount of impurity remaining with the precipitate will be

$$\frac{a_1 - a_2}{v} = ka_2. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (12)$$

Eliminate  $a_1$  from this by the aid of (11), and we get

$$a_2 = \frac{a_0}{kv + 1}$$

for the second washing; and for the  $n$ th washing,

$$a_n = \frac{1}{kv + 1} a_0.$$

But all this is based upon the unverified assumption as to the constancy of  $k$ , a question which can only be decided by an appeal to experiment. See R. Bunsen, *Liebig's Ann.*, 148, 269, 1868.

### § 93. Tests for Convergent Series.

Mathematicians have discovered some very interesting facts in their investigations upon the properties of infinite series. Many of these results can be employed as tests for the convergency of any given series. I shall not give more than three tests to be used in this connection.

*I. If the series of terms are alternately positive and negative, and the numerical value of the successive terms decreases, the series is convergent.* For example, the series

$$1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} - \dots$$

may be expressed in either of the following forms:—

$$(1 - \frac{1}{2}) + (\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}) + (\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{6}) + \dots; 1 - (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}) - (\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5}) - (\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{7}) - \dots$$

Every quantity within the brackets is of necessity positive. The sum of the former series is greater than  $1 - \frac{1}{2}$ , and the sum of the latter is less than 1; consequently, the sum of the series must have some value between 1 and  $\frac{1}{2}$ . In other words, the series is convergent. If a series in which all the terms are positive is convergent, the series will also be convergent when some or all of the terms have a negative value. Otherwise expressed, a series with varying signs is convergent if the series derived from it by making all the signs positive is convergent.

*II. If there be two infinite series.*

$$u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + \dots u_n + \dots; \text{ and } v_0 + v_1 + v_2 + \dots v_n + \dots$$

*the first of which is known to be convergent, and if each term of the other series is not greater than the corresponding term of the first series, the second series is also convergent.* If the first series is divergent, and each term of the second series is greater than the corresponding term of the first series, the second series is divergent. This is called the **comparison test**. The series most used for reference are the geometrical series

$$a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^n + \dots$$

which is known to be convergent when  $r$  is less than unity, and divergent when  $r$  is greater than or equal to unity; and

$$1 + \frac{1}{2^m} + \frac{1}{3^m} + \frac{1}{4^m} + \dots$$

which is known to be convergent when  $m$  is greater than unity; and divergent, if  $m$  is equal to or less than unity.

EXAMPLE.—Show that the series  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots$  is convergent by comparison with the geometrical series  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots$ .

III. An infinite series is convergent if from and after some fixed term the ratio of each term to the preceding term is numerically less than some quantity which is itself less than unity. For instance, let the series, beginning from the fixed term, be

$$a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots$$

Let  $s_n$  denote the sum of the first  $n$  terms. We can therefore write

$$s_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + \dots$$

By rearranging the terms of the series, we get

$$s_n = a_1 \left( 1 + \frac{a_2}{a_1} + \frac{a_3}{a_2} \cdot \frac{a_2}{a_1} + \frac{a_4}{a_3} \cdot \frac{a_3}{a_1} + \dots \right)$$

The fraction  $\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n}$  is called the **ratio test**. Suppose the ratio test

$$\frac{a_2}{a_1} \text{ be less than } r; \quad \frac{a_3}{a_2} \text{ be less than } r; \quad \frac{a_4}{a_3} \text{ be less than } r; \quad \dots$$

that is, from (3) and (5), page 267,

$$s_n \text{ be less than } a_1 \frac{1 - r^n}{1 - r}.$$

Hence, from (7), if  $r$  is less than unity,

$$s_n \text{ be less than } \frac{a_1}{1 - r}.$$

Thus the sum of as many terms as we please, beginning with  $a$ , is less than a certain finite quantity  $r$ , and therefore the series beginning with  $a_1$  is convergent.

EXAMPLES.—(1) The series  $1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dots$ , is convergent because the test-ratio  $= x/n$  becomes zero when  $n = \infty$ .

(2) The series  $1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}x^3 + \dots$  is convergent when  $x$  is less than unity.

It is possible to have a series in which the terms increase up to a certain point, and then begin to decrease. In the series

$$1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3 + \dots + nx^{n+1} + \dots,$$

for example, we have

$$\frac{a_n}{a_{n-1}} = \frac{nx}{n-1} = \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n-1} \right) x.$$

If  $n$  be large enough, the series can be made as nearly equal to  $x$  as we please. Hence, if  $x$  is less than unity, the series is convergent. The ratio will not be less than unity until

$$\frac{n-1}{nx} \text{ be less than } 1; \text{ i.e., until } n > \frac{1}{1-x}.$$

If  $x = \frac{9}{10}$ , for example,  $\frac{1}{1-x} = 10$ , and the terms only begin to decrease after the 10th term.

These tests will probably be found sufficient for all the series the student is likely to meet in the ordinary course of things. If the test-ratio is greater than unity, the series is divergent; and if this ratio is equal to unity, the test fails.

### § 94. Approximate Calculations in Scientific Work.

A good deal of the tedious labour involved in the reduction of experimental results to their final form, may be avoided by attention to the degree of accuracy of the measurements under consideration. It is one of the commonest of mistakes to extend the arithmetical work beyond the degree of precision attained in the practical work. Thus, Dulong calculated his indices of refraction to eight digits when they agreed only to three. When asked "Why?" Dulong returned the ironical answer: "I see no reason for suppressing the last decimals, for, if the first are wrong, the last may be all right"!

In a memoir "On the Atomic Weight of Aluminium," at present before me, I read, "0.646 gm. of aluminium chloride gave 2.0549731 grms. of silver chloride...." It is not clear how the author obtained his seven decimals seeing that, in an earlier part of the paper, he expressly states that his balance was not sensitive to more than 0.0001 gm. A popular book on "The Analysis of Gases," tells us that 1 c.c. of carbon dioxide weighs 0.00196633 gm. The number is calculated upon the assumption that carbon dioxide is an ideal gas, whereas this gas is a notorious exception. Latitude also might cause variations over a range of  $\pm 0.000003$  gm. The last three figures of the given constant are useless. "Superfluitas," said R. Bacon, "impedit multum... reddit opus abominabile."

Although the measurements of a Stas, or of a Whitworth, may require six or eight decimal figures, few observations are correct to more than four or five. But even this degree of accuracy is only obtained by picked men working under special conditions. Observations which agree to the second or third decimal place are comparatively rare in chemistry.

Again, the best of calculations is a more or less crude approximation on account of the "simplifying assumptions" introduced when deducing the formula to which the experimental results are referred. It is, therefore, no good extending the "calculated results" beyond the reach of experimental verification. "It is unprofitable to demand a greater degree of precision from the calculated than from the observed results—but one ought not to demand a less" (H. Poincaré's *Mécanique Céleste*, Paris, 1892).

The general rule in scientific calculations is to use one more decimal figure than the degree of accuracy of the data. In other words, reject as superfluous all decimal figures beyond the first doubtful digit. The remaining digits are said to be **significant figures**.

**EXAMPLES.**—In 1.540, there are four significant figures, the cypher indicates that the magnitude has been measured to the thousandth part; in 0.00154, there are three significant figures, the cyphers are added to fix the decimal point; in 15,400, there is nothing to show whether the last two cyphers are significant or not, there may be three, four, or five significant figures.

In "casting off" useless decimal figures, the last digit retained must be increased by unity when the following digit is greater than four. We must, therefore, distinguish between 9.2 when it means exactly 9.2, and when it means anything between 9.14 and 9.25. In the so-called "exact sciences," the latter is the usual interpretation. Quantities are assumed to be equal when the differences fall within the limits of experimental error.

**LOGARITHMS.**—There are very few calculations in practical work outside the range of four or five figure logarithms. The use of more elaborate tables may, therefore, be dispensed with. There are so very many booklets and cards containing "Tables of Logarithms" upon the market that one cannot be recommended in preference to another.

**ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION.**—In adding such numbers as 9.2 and 0.4913, cast off the 3 and the 1, then write the answer, 9.69, not 9.6913. Show that  $5.60 + 20.7 + 103.193 = 129.5$ , with an error of about 0.01, that is about 0.08 per cent.

**MULTIPLICATION AND DIVISION.**—The product  $2.25\pi$  represents the length of the perimeter of a circle whose diameter is 2.25 units;  $\pi$  is a numerical coefficient whose value has been calculated by Shanks (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 22, 45, 1873), to over seven hundred

decimal places, so that  $\pi = 3.141592,653589,793 \dots$ . Of these two numbers, therefore, 2.25 is the less reliable. Instead of the ludicrous 7.0685808625..., we simply write the answer, 7.07. Again, although W. H. Colvill has run out  $\sqrt{2}$  to 110 decimal places we are not likely to want more than half a dozen significant figures.

It is no doubt unnecessary to remind the reader that in scientific computations the standard arithmetical methods of multiplication and division are abbreviated so as to avoid writing down a greater number of digits than is necessary to obtain the desired degree of accuracy. The following scheme for “shortened multiplication and division,” requires little or no explanation:—

Shortened Multiplication.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 9.774 \\
 365.4 \\
 \hline
 2932.2 \\
 586.4 \\
 48.9 \\
 3.9 \\
 \hline
 3571.\bar{4}
 \end{array}$$

Shortened Division.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 365.4)3571.3(9.774 \\
 3288.6 \\
 \hline
 282.7 \\
 255.8 \\
 \hline
 26.9 \\
 25.5 \\
 \hline
 1.4
 \end{array}$$

The digits of the multiplier are taken from left to right, not right to left. One figure less of the divisor is used at each step of the division. The last figure of the quotient is obtained mentally. A “bar” is usually placed over strengthened figures so as to allow for an excess or defect of them in the result.

W. Ostwald, in his *Hand- und Hilfsbuch zur Ausführung physikochemiker Messungen*, Leipzig, 1893, has said that “the use of these methods cannot be too strongly emphasized. The ordinary methods of multiplication and division must be termed unscientific.” Full details are given in E. M. Langley’s booklet, *A Treatise on Computation*, London, 1895.

*The error introduced in approximate calculations by the “casting off” of decimal figures.*

Some care is required in rounding off decimals to avoid an excess or defect of strengthened figures by making the positive and negative errors neutralize each other in the final result. It is sometimes advisable, in dealing with the 5 in a “train” of arithmetical operations, to leave the last figure an even number. *E.g.*, 3.75 would become 3.8, while 3.85 would be written 3.8.



The percentage error of the product of two approximate numbers is very nearly the algebraic sum of the percentage error of each. If the positive error in the one be numerically equal to the negative error in the other, the product will be nearly correct, the errors neutralize each other.

EXAMPLE.— $19.8 \times 3.18$ . The first factor may be written 20 with a + error of 1 %, and, therefore,  $20 \times 3.18 = 63.6$ , with a + error of 1 %. This excess must be deducted from 63.6. We thus obtain 62.95. The true result is 62.964.

The percentage error of the quotient of two approximate numbers is obtained by subtracting the percentage error of the numerator from that of the denominator. If the positive error of the numerator is numerically equal to the positive error of the denominator, the error in the quotient is practically neutralized.

There is a well-defined distinction between the approximate values of a physical constant, which are seldom known to more than three or four significant figures, and the approximate value of the incommensurables  $\pi$ ,  $e$ ,  $\sqrt{2}$ , ... which can be calculated to any desired degree of accuracy. If we use  $\frac{22}{7}$  in place of 3.1416 for  $\pi$ , the absolute error is greater than or equal to  $3.1429 - 3.1416$ , and equal to or less than  $3.1428 - 3.1416$ ; that is, between .0012 and .0014. In scientific work we are rarely concerned with absolute errors.

## § 95. Approximate Calculations by Means of Infinite Series.

The reader will, perhaps, have been impressed with the frequency with which experimental results are referred to a series formula of the type :

$$y = A + Bx + Cx^2 + Dx^3 + \dots, \quad (1)$$

in physical or chemical text-books. For instance, I have counted over thirty examples in the first volume of Mendeléeff's *The Principles of Chemistry*, and in J. W. Mellor's *Chemical Statics and Dynamics* it is shown that all the formulæ which have been proposed to represent the relation between the temperature and the velocity of chemical reactions have been derived from a similar formula by the suppression of certain terms. The formula has no theoretical significance whatever. It does not pretend to accurately represent the whole course of any natural phenomena. All it postulates is that the phenomena in question proceed continuously. In the absence of any knowledge as to the proper setting of the

“law” connecting two variables, this formula may be used to express the relation between the two phenomena to any required degree of approximation. It is only to be looked upon as an arbitrary device which is used for calculating corresponding values of the two variables where direct measurements have not been obtained.  $A, B, C, \dots$  are constants to be determined from the experimental data by methods to be described later on. There are several interesting features about this expression.

I. When the progress of any physical change is represented by the above formula, the approximation is closer to reality the greater the number of terms included in the calculation. This is best shown by an example. The specific gravity  $s$  of an aqueous solution of hydrogen chloride is an unknown function of the amount of gas  $p$  per cent. dissolved in the water. (Unit: water at  $4^\circ = 10,000$ .)

The first two columns of the following table represent corresponding values of  $p$  and  $s$ , determined by Mendeléeff. It is desired to find a mathematical formula to represent these results with a fair degree of approximation, in order that we may be able to calculate  $p$  if we know  $s$ , or, to determine  $s$  if we know  $p$ . Let us suppress all but the first two terms of the above series,

$$s = A + Bp,$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are constants, found, by methods to be described later, to be  $A = 9991.6$ ,  $B = 50.5$ . Now calculate  $s$  from the given values of  $p$  by means of the formula,

$$s = 9991.6 + 50.5p, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

and compare the results with those determined by experiment. See the second and third columns of the following table:—

Percentage Composition <i>P.</i>	Specific Gravity <i>s.</i>		
	Found.	Calculated.	
		1st Approx.	2nd Approx.
5	10242	10244	10240
10	10490	10497	10492
15	10744	10749	10746
20	11001	11002	11003
25	11266	11254	11263

Formula (2), therefore, might serve all that is required in, say,

a manufacturing establishment, but, in order to represent the connection between specific gravity and percentage composition with a greater degree of accuracy, another term must be included in the calculation, thus we write

$$s = A + Bp + Cp^2,$$

where  $B$  is found to be equivalent to 49.43, and  $C$  to 0.0571. The agreement between the results calculated according to the formula :

$$s = 9991.6 + 49.43p + 0.0571p^2, \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

and those actually found by experiment is now very close. This will be evident on comparing the second with the fourth columns of the above table. The term  $0.0571p^2$  is to be looked upon as a **correction term**. It is very small in comparison with the preceding terms.

If a still greater precision is required, another correction term must be included in the calculation, we thus obtain

$$y = A + Bx + Cx^2 + Dx^3.$$

Such an expression was employed by T. E. Thorpe and A. W. Rücker (*Phil. Trans.*, 166, ii., 1, 1877) for the relation between the volume and temperature of sea-water; by T. E. Thorpe and A. E. Tutton (*Journ. Chem. Soc.*, 57, 545, 1890) for the relation between the temperature and volume of phosphorous oxide; and by Rapp for the specific heat of water,  $\sigma$ , between  $0^\circ$  and  $100^\circ$ . Thus Rapp gives

$$\sigma = 1.039935 - 0.007068\theta + 0.00021255\theta^2 - 0.00000154\theta^3,$$

and Hirn (*Ann. Chim. Phys.* [4], 10, 32, 1867) used yet a fourth term, namely,

$$v = A + B\theta + C\theta^2 + D\theta^3 + E\theta^4,$$

in his formula for the volume of water, between  $100^\circ$  and  $200^\circ$ .

The logical consequence of this reasoning, is that by including every possible term in the approximation formula, we should get absolutely correct results by means of the infinite converging series :

$$y = A + Bx + Cx^2 + Dx^3 + Ex^4 + Fx^5 + \dots + \text{ad infin.} \quad (4)$$

It is the purpose of Maclaurin's theorem to determine values of  $A, B, C, \dots$  which will make this series true.

II. *The rapidity of the convergence of any series determines how many terms are to be included in the calculation in order to obtain any desired degree of approximation.* It is obvious that

the smaller the numerical value of the "correction terms" in the preceding series, the less their influence on the calculated result. If each correction term is very small in comparison with the preceding one, very good approximations can be obtained by the use of comparatively simple formulæ involving two, or, at most, three terms, *e.g.*, p. 87. On the other hand, if the number of correction terms is very great, the series becomes so unmanageable as to be practically useless.

Equation (1) may be written in the form,

$$y = A(1 + bx + cx^2 + \dots),$$

where  $A, b, c, \dots$  are constants;  $A$  is the value of  $y$  when  $x = 0$ .

As a general rule, when a substance is heated, it increases in volume,  $v$ ; its mass,  $m$ , remains constant, the density,  $\rho$ , therefore, must necessarily decrease. But,

$$\text{Mass} = \text{Density} \times \text{Volume}; \text{ or, } m = \rho v.$$

The volume of a substance at  $\theta^\circ$  is given by the expression

$$v = v_0(1 + a\theta),$$

where  $v_0$  represents the volume of the substance when  $\theta$  is  $0^\circ \text{C}$ .  $a$  is the coefficient of cubical expansion. Evidently,

$$\frac{\rho_0}{\rho} = \frac{v}{v_0} = \frac{v_0(1 + a\theta)}{v_0} = 1 + a\theta; \therefore \rho = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + a\theta}.$$

True for solids, liquids, and gases. For simplicity, put  $\rho_0 = 1$ . By division, we obtain

$$\rho = 1 - a\theta + (a\theta)^2 - (a\theta)^3 + \dots$$

For solids and some liquids  $a$  is very small in comparison with unity. For example, with mercury  $a = 0.00018$ . Let  $\theta$  be small enough

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= 1 - 0.00018\theta + (0.00018\theta)^2 - \dots \\ \therefore \rho &= 1 - 0.00018\theta + 0.000000,0324\theta^2 - \dots \end{aligned}$$

If the result is to be accurate to the second decimal place (1 per 100), terms smaller than 0.01 should be neglected; if to the third decimal place (1 per 1000), omit all terms smaller than 0.001, and so on. It is, of course, necessary to extend the calculation a few decimal places beyond the required degree of approximation. How many, naturally depends on the rapidity of convergence of the series. If, therefore, we require the density of mercury correct to the sixth decimal place, the omission of the third term can make no perceptible difference to the result.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $h_0$  denotes the height of the barometer at  $0^\circ \text{C}$ . and  $h$  its height at  $\theta^\circ$ , what terms must be included in the approximation formula,  $h = h_0(1 + 0.00018\theta)$ , in order to reduce a reading at  $20^\circ$  to the standard temperature, correct to 1 in 100,000?

(2) In accurate weighings a correction must be made for the buoyancy of the air by reducing the "observed weight in air" to "weight in vacuo".<sup>1</sup> Let  $W$  denote the true weight of the body (*in vacuo*),  $w$  the observed weight in air,  $\rho$  the density of the body,  $\rho_1$  the density of the weights,  $\rho_2$  the density of the air at the time of weighing. Hence show that if

$$W\left(1 - \frac{\rho_2}{\rho}\right) = w\left(1 - \frac{\rho_2}{\rho_1}\right); \quad W = w \frac{1 - \frac{\rho_2}{\rho_1}}{1 - \frac{\rho_2}{\rho}} = w\left(1 - \frac{\rho_2}{\rho_1} + \frac{\rho_2}{\rho}\right) = w + 0.0012w\left(\frac{1}{\rho} - \frac{1}{\rho_1}\right);$$

which is the standard formula for reducing weighings in air to weighings in vacuo. The numerical factor represents the density of moderately moist air at the temperature of a room under normal conditions.

(3) If  $\alpha$  denotes the coefficient of cubical expansion of a solid, the volume of a solid at any temperature  $\theta$  is,  $v = v_0(1 + \alpha\theta)$ , where  $v_0$  represents the volume of the substance at  $0^\circ$ . Hence show that the relation between the volumes,  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ , of the solid at the respective temperatures of  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  is  $v_1 = v_2(1 + \alpha\theta_1 - \alpha\theta_2)$ . Why does this formula fail for gases?

(4) Since 
$$\frac{1}{x-a} = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{a}{x^2} + \frac{a^2}{x^3} + \dots,$$

the reciprocals of many numbers can be very easily obtained correct to many decimal places. Thus

$$\frac{1}{97} = \frac{1}{100-3} = \frac{1}{100} + \frac{3}{10,000} + \frac{9}{1,000,000} + \dots = 0.01 + 0.0003 + 0.000009 + \dots$$

(5) We require an accuracy of 1 per 1,000. What is the greatest value of  $x$  which will permit the use of the approximation formula  $(1+x)^3 = 1+3x$ ? There is a collection of approximation formulæ on page 601.

(6) From the formula,  $(1 \pm x)^n = 1 \pm nx$ , where  $n$  may be positive or negative, integral or fractional, calculate the approximate values of  $\sqrt{999}$ ,  $1/\sqrt{1.02}$ ,  $(1.001)^3$ ,  $\sqrt{1.05}$ , mentally. Hints. In the first case  $n = \frac{1}{2}$ ; in the second,  $n = -\frac{1}{2}$ ; in the third,  $n = 3$ . In the first,  $x = -1$ ; in the second,  $x = 0.02$ ; in the third,  $x = 0.001$ , etc.

## § 96. Maclaurin's Theorem.

*Maclaurin's theorem determines the law for the expansion of a function of a SINGLE variable in a series of ascending powers of that variable.* Let the variable be denoted by  $x$ , then,

$$u = f(x).$$

<sup>1</sup> A difference of 45 mm. in the height of a barometer during an organic combustion analysis, may cause an error of 0.6 % in the determination of the  $\text{CO}_2$ , and an error of 0.4 % in the determination of the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . See W. Crookes, "The Determination of the Atomic Weight of Thallium," *Phil. Trans.*, 163, 277, 1874.

Assume that  $f(x)$  can be developed in ascending powers of  $x$ , like the series used in the preceding section, namely,

$$u = f(x) = A + Bx + Cx^2 + Dx^3 + \dots, \quad (1)$$

where  $A, B, C, D \dots$ , are constants independent of  $x$ , but dependent on the constants contained in the original function. It is required to determine the value of these constants, in order that the above assumption may be true for all values of  $x$ .

There are several methods for the development of functions in series, depending on algebraic, trigonometrical, or other processes. The one of greatest utility is known as Taylor's theorem. Maclaurin's<sup>1</sup> theorem is but a special case of Taylor's. We shall work from the special to the general.

By successive differentiation of (1),

$$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{df(x)}{dx} = B + 2Cx + 3Dx^2 + \dots; \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{d^2u}{dx^2} = \frac{df'(x)}{dx} = 2C + 2 \cdot 3Dx + \dots; \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{d^3u}{dx^3} = \frac{df''(x)}{dx} = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot D + \dots \quad (4)$$

By hypothesis, (1) is true whatever be the value of  $x$ , and, therefore, the constants  $A, B, C, D, \dots$  are the same whatever value be assigned to  $x$ . Now substitute  $x = 0$  in equations (2), (3), (4). Let  $v$  denote the value assumed by  $u$  when  $x = 0$ . Hence, from (1),

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} v = f(0) = A, & \therefore A = v; \\ \text{from (2), } \frac{dv}{dx} = f'(0) = 1 \cdot B, & \therefore B = \frac{dv}{dx}; \\ \text{from (3), } \frac{d^2v}{dx^2} = f''(0) = 1 \cdot 2C, & \therefore C = \frac{1}{2!} \frac{d^2v}{dx^2}; \\ \text{from (4), } \frac{d^3v}{dx^3} = f'''(0) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3D, & \therefore D = \frac{1}{3!} \frac{d^3v}{dx^3}. \end{array} \right\} \quad (5)$$

Substitute the above values of  $A, B, C, \dots$ , in (1) and we get

$$u = v + \frac{dv}{dx} \frac{x}{1} + \frac{d^2v}{dx^2} \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{d^3v}{dx^3} \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots \quad (6)$$

---

<sup>1</sup> The name is here a historical misnomer. Taylor published his series in 1715. In 1717, Stirling showed that the series under consideration was a special case of Taylor's. Twenty-five years after this Maclaurin independently published Stirling's series. But then "both Maclaurin and Stirling," adds De Morgan, "would have been astonished to know that a particular case of Taylor's theorem would be called by either of their names".

The series on the right-hand side is known as **Maclaurin's Series**. The first term is what the series becomes when  $x = 0$ ; the second term is what the first derivative of the function becomes when  $x = 0$ , multiplied by  $x$ ; the third term is the product of the second derivative of the function when  $x = 0$ , into  $x^2$  divided by factorial 2...

" $f^n(0)$ " means that  $f(x)$  is to be differentiated  $n$  times, and  $x$  equated to zero in the resulting expression. Using this notation the series assumes the form

$$u = f(0) + f'(0)\frac{x}{1} + f''(0)\frac{x^2}{1.2} + f'''(0)\frac{x^3}{1.2.3} + \dots \quad (7)$$

### § 97. Useful Deductions from Maclaurin's Theorem.

The following may be considered as a series of examples of the use of the formula obtained in the preceding section. Many of the results now to be established will be employed in our subsequent work.

#### *I. Binomial Series.*

In order to expand any function by Maclaurin's theorem, the successive differential coefficients of  $u$  are to be computed and  $x$  then equated to zero. This fixes the values of the different constants.

Let  $u = (a + x)^n$ ,  
 $du/dx = n(a + x)^{n-1}$ ,  $\therefore f'(0) = na^{n-1}$ ;  
 $d^2u/dx^2 = n(n-1)(a + x)^{n-2}$ ,  $\therefore f''(0) = n(n-1)a^{n-2}$ ;  
 $d^3u/dx^3 = n(n-1)(n-2)(a + x)^{n-3}$ ,  $\therefore f'''(0) = n(n-1)(n-2)a^{n-3}$ ,  
 and so on. Now substitute these values in Maclaurin's series (6),

$$(a + x)^n = a^n + \frac{n}{1}a^{n-1}x + \frac{n(n-1)}{1.2}a^{n-2}x^2 + \dots, \quad (1)$$

a result known as the **binomial series**, true for positive, negative, or fractional values of  $n$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Prove that

$$(a - x)^n = a^n - \frac{n}{1}a^{n-1}x + \frac{n(n-1)}{1.2}a^{n-2}x^2 - \dots \quad (2)$$

When  $n$  is a positive integer, and  $n = m$ , the infinite series is cut off at a point where  $n - m = 0$ . A finite number of terms remains.

(2) Establish  $(1 + x^2)^{1/2} = 1 + x^2/2 - x^4/8 + x^6/16 - \dots$

(3) Show  $(1 - x^2)^{-1/2} = 1 + x^2/2 + 3x^4/8 + 5x^6/16 + \dots$

(4) Show  $(1 + x^2)^{-1} = 1 - x^2 + x^4 - \dots$ . Verify this result by actual division.

## II. Trigonometrical Series.

Suppose  $u = f(x) = \sin x$ . Note that  $du/dx = d(\sin x)/dx = \cos x$ ;  $d^2u/dx^2 = d^2(\sin x)/dx^2 = d(\cos x)/dx = -\sin x$ , etc.; and that  $\sin 0 = 0$ ,  $-\sin 0 = 0$ ,  $\cos 0 = 1$ ,  $-\cos 0 = -1$ .

Hence, we get the **sine series**,

$$\sin x = \frac{x}{1} - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots \quad (3)$$

In the same manner we find the **cosine series**

$$\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots \quad (4)$$

These series are employed for calculating the numerical values of angles between 0 and  $\frac{1}{4}\pi$ . All the other angles found in "trigonometrical tables of sines and cosines," can be then determined by means of the formulæ, page 611,

$$\sin(\tfrac{1}{2}\pi - x) = \cos x; \quad \cos(\tfrac{1}{2}\pi - x) = \sin x.$$

Now let

$$u = f(x) = \tan x. \quad \therefore u \cos x = \sin x.$$

From page 67, by successive differentiation of this expression, remembering that  $u_1 = du/dx$ ,  $u_2 = d^2u/dx^2$ , ..., as in § 8,

$$\therefore u_1 \cos x - u \sin x = \cos x;$$

$$\therefore u_2 \cos x - 2u_1 \sin x - u \cos x = -\sin x;$$

$$\therefore u_3 \cos x - 3u_2 \sin x - 3u_1 \cos x + u \sin x = -\cos x.$$

By analogy with the coefficients of the binominal development (1), or Leibnitz' theorem, § 21,

$$u_n \cos x - \frac{n}{1} u_{n-1} \sin x - \frac{n(n-1)}{1 \cdot 2} u_{n-2} \cos x + \dots = n\text{th deriv. } \sin x.$$

Now find the values of  $u$ ,  $u_1$ ,  $u_2$ ,  $u_3$  ... by equating  $x = 0$  in the above equations, thus,

$$f(0) = f''(0) = \dots = 0; \quad f'(0) = 1, \quad f'''(0) = 2, \dots$$

Substitute these values in Maclaurin's series (7), preceding section.

The result is, the **tangent series**:

$$\tan x = \frac{x}{1} + \frac{2x^3}{3!} + \frac{16x^5}{5!} + \dots; \quad \text{or, } \tan x = \frac{x}{1} + \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{2x^5}{15} + \dots \quad (5)$$

## III. Inverse Trigonometrical Series.

Let  $\theta = \tan^{-1}x$ . By (3), § 17 and Ex. (4) above,

$$\therefore d\theta/dx = (1 + x^2)^{-1} = 1 - x^2 + x^4 - x^6 + \dots$$

By successive differentiation and substitution in the usual way, we find that



$$\tan^{-1}x = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \dots, \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

or, from the original equation,

$$\theta = \tan \theta - \frac{1}{3} \tan^3 \theta + \frac{1}{5} \tan^5 \theta - \dots, \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

which is known as **Gregory's series**. This series is known to be converging when  $\theta$  lies between  $-\frac{1}{4}\pi$  and  $\frac{1}{4}\pi$ ; and it has been employed for calculating the numerical value of  $\pi$ . Let  $\theta = 45^\circ = \frac{1}{4}\pi$ ,  $\therefore x = 1$ . Substitute in (6),

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{11} + \frac{1}{13} - \dots$$

The so-called **Leibnitz series**. We can obtain the inverse sine series

$$\sin^{-1}x = x + \frac{1}{2} \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{3}{8} \frac{x^5}{5} + \frac{5}{16} \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots, \quad . \quad (8)$$

in a similar manner. Now write  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\sin^{-1}x = \frac{1}{6}\pi$ . Substitute these values in (8). The resulting series was used by Newton for the computation of  $\pi$ .

#### IV. The Numerical value of $\pi$ .

This is a convenient opportunity to emphasize the remarks on the unpracticable nature of a slowly converging series. It would be an extremely laborious operation to calculate  $\pi$  accurately by means of this series. A little artifice will simplify the method, thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi}{4} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{11}\right) + \dots; \quad \frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{2}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{2}{5 \cdot 7} + \frac{2}{9 \cdot 11} + \dots \\ \therefore \frac{\pi}{8} &= \frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 7} + \frac{1}{9 \cdot 11} + \dots, \end{aligned}$$

which does not involve quite so much labour. It will be observed that the angle  $x$  is not to be referred to the degree-minute-second system of units, but to the unit of the circular system (page 606), namely, the radian. Suppose  $x = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}$ , then  $\tan^{-1}x = 30^\circ = \frac{1}{6}\pi$ . Substitute this value of  $x$  in (6), collect the positive and negative terms in separate brackets, thus

$$\frac{\pi}{6} = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{1}{5\sqrt{3^3}} + \dots\right) - \left(\frac{1}{3\sqrt{3^3}} + \frac{1}{7\sqrt{3^5}} + \dots\right).$$

To further illustrate, we shall compute the numerical value of  $\pi$  to five correct decimal places. At the outset, it will be obvious

that (1) we must include two or three more decimals in each term than is required in the final result, and (2) we must evaluate term after term until the subsequent terms can no longer influence the numerical value of the desired result. Hence :

Terms enclosed in the first brackets.

0·57735 03

0·01283 00

0·00079 20

0·00006 09

0·00000 52

0·00000 05

---

0·59103 89

Terms enclosed in the second brackets.

0·06415 01

0·00305 48

0·00021 60

0·00001 76

0·00000 15

0·00000 02

---

0·06744 02

$$\therefore \pi = 6(0·59103 \ 89 - 0·06744 \ 02) = 3·14159 \ 22.$$

The number of unreliable figures at the end obviously depends on the rapidity of the convergence of the series. Here the last two figures are untrustworthy. But notice how the positive errors are, in part, balanced by the negative errors. The correct value of  $\pi$  to seven decimal places is 3·1415926. There are several shorter ways of evaluating  $\pi$ . See *Encyc. Brit.*, Art. "Squaring the Circle".

### V. Exponential Series.

Show that

$$e^x = 1 + \frac{x}{1} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots, \quad e = 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \dots \quad (9)$$

by Maclaurin's series. An **exponential series** expresses the development of  $e^x$ ,  $a^x$ , or some other exponential function in a series of ascending powers of  $x$  and coefficients independent of  $x$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that if  $k = \log a$ ,

$$a^x = 1 + kx + \frac{k^2 x^2}{2!} + \frac{k^3 x^3}{3!} + \dots \quad (10)$$

(2) Represent Dalton's and Gay Lussac's laws, from the footnote, page 91, in symbols. Show by mathematical reasoning that if second and higher powers of  $a\theta$  are outside the range of measurement, as they are supposed to be in ordinary gas calculations, Dalton's law,  $v = v_0 e^{a\theta}$ , is equivalent to Gay Lussac's,  $v = v_0(1 + a\theta)$ .

(3) Show 
$$e^{-x} = 1 - \frac{x}{1} + \frac{x^2}{2!} - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \dots \quad (11)$$

### VI. Euler's Sine and Cosine Series.

If we substitute  $\sqrt{-1} \cdot x$ , or, what is the same thing,  $\omega$  in place of  $x$ , we obtain,

$$e^{ix} = 1 + \frac{ix}{1} - \frac{x^2}{2!} - \frac{ix^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \frac{ix^5}{5!} - \dots;$$

$$\therefore e^{ix} = \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \dots\right) + i\left(\frac{x}{1} - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \dots\right). \quad (12)$$

By reference to page 283, we shall find that the first expression in brackets, is the cosine series, the second the sine series. Hence,

$$e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x. \quad (13)$$

In the same way, it can be shown that

$$e^{-ix} = 1 - \frac{ix}{1} - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{ix^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{ix^5}{5!} - \dots;$$

$$\therefore e^{-ix} = \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \dots\right) - i\left(\frac{x}{1} - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \dots\right). \quad (14)$$

Or,

$$e^{-ix} = \cos x - i \sin x. \quad (15)$$

Combining equations (13) and (15), we get

$$\frac{1}{2}(e^{ix} - e^{-ix}) = i \sin x; \quad \frac{1}{2}(e^{ix} + e^{-ix}) = \cos x. \quad (16)$$

The development by Maclaurin's series cannot be used if the function or any of its derivatives becomes infinite or discontinuous when  $x$  is equated to zero. For example, the first differential coefficient of  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ , is  $\frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , which is infinite for  $x = 0$ , in other words, the series is no longer convergent. The same thing will be found with the functions  $\log x$ ,  $\cot x$ ,  $1/x$ ,  $a^{1/x}$  and  $\sec^{-1}x$ . Some of these functions may, however, be developed as a fractional or some other simple function of  $x$ , or we may use Taylor's theorem.

### § 98. Taylor's Theorem.

*Taylor's theorem determines the law for the expansion of a function of the sum, or difference of two variables into a series of ascending powers of one of the variables.* Now let

$$u_1 = f(x + y).$$

Assume that

$$u_1 = f(x + y) = A + By + Cy^2 + Dy^3 + \dots, \quad (1)$$

where  $A, B, C, D, \dots$  are constants, independent of  $y$ , but dependent upon  $x$  and also upon the constants entering into the original equation. It is required to find values for  $A, B, C, \dots$  which will make the series true. Since the proposed development is true for all values of  $x$  and  $y$ , it will also be true for any given value of  $x$ , say  $a$ . Now let  $A', B', C', \dots$  be the respective values

of  $A, B, C, \dots$  in (1) when  $x = a$ . Hence, we start with the assumption that

$$u' = f(a + y) = A' + B'y + C'y^2 + D'y^3 + \dots \quad (2)$$

Put  $z = a + y$ , hence,  $y = z - a$ , and Maclaurin's theorem gives us

$$u' = f(z) = A' + B'(z - a) + C'(z - a)^2 + D'(z - a)^3 + \dots$$

Now write down the successive derivatives with respect to  $z$ .

$$\frac{du'}{dz} = f'(z) = B' + 2C'(z - a) + 3D'(z - a)^2 + \dots$$

$$\frac{d^2u'}{dz^2} = f''(z) = 2C' + 2.3D'(z - a) + 3.4E'(z - a)^2 + \dots$$

$$\frac{d^3u'}{dz^3} = f'''(z) = 2.3D' + 2.3.4E'(z - a) + \dots$$

While Maclaurin's theorem evaluates the series upon the assumption that the variable becomes zero, Taylor's theorem deduces a value for the series when  $x = a$ . Let  $z = a$ , then  $y = 0$ , and we get

$$f(a) = A'; f'(a) = B'; f''(a) = 2C'; \therefore C' = \frac{1}{2}f''(a); f'''(a) = 2.3D'; \\ \therefore D' = \frac{1}{2}f'''(a).$$

Substitute these values of  $A', B', C', \dots$  in equation (2), and we get

$$u' = f(a + y) = f(a) + f'(a)\frac{y}{1} + f''(a)\frac{y^2}{2!} + f'''(a)\frac{y^3}{3!} + \dots \quad (3)$$

for the proposed development when  $x$  assumes a given particular value. But  $a$  is any value of  $x$ ; hence, if

$$u = f(x). \quad (4)$$

Substitute these values of  $A, B, C, D$  in the original equation and we obtain

$$u_1 = f(x + y) = u + \frac{du}{dx} \frac{y}{1} + \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} \frac{y^2}{1.2} + \frac{d^3u}{dx^3} \frac{y^3}{1.2.3} + \dots \quad (5)$$

The series on the right-hand side is known as **Taylor's series**. The first term is what the given function becomes when  $y = 0$ ; the second term is the product of the first derivative of the function when  $y = 0$ , into  $y$ ; the third term is the product of the second derivative of the function when  $y = 0$ , into  $y^2$  divided by factorial 2 ... In (5),  $u = f(x)$  is obtained by putting  $y = 0$ . Thus, in the development of  $(x + y)^5$  by Taylor's theorem,

$$u = f(x) = x^5; du/dx = f'(x) = 5x^4; d^2u/dx^2 = f''(x) = 4.5x^3; \dots$$

$$\therefore (x + y)^5 = x^5 + 5x^4y + 10x^3y^2 + 10x^2y^3 + 5xy^4 + y^5.$$

Instead of (5), we may write Taylor's series in the form,

$$u_1 = f(x + y) = f(x) + f'(x)\frac{y}{1} + f''(x)\frac{y^2}{1 \cdot 2} + f'''(x)\frac{y^3}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3} + \dots \quad (6)$$

Or, interchanging the variables,

$$u_1 = f(x + y) = f(y) + f'(y)\frac{x}{1} + f''(y)\frac{x^2}{1 \cdot 2} + f'''(y)\frac{x^3}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3} + \dots \quad (7)$$

I leave the reader to prove that

$$f(x - y) = f(x) - f'(x)\frac{y}{1} + f''(x)\frac{y^2}{2!} - f'''(x)\frac{y^3}{3!} + \dots \quad (8)$$

Maclaurin's and Taylor's series are slightly different expressions for the same thing. The one form can be converted into the other by substituting  $f(x + y)$  for  $f(x)$  in Maclaurin's theorem, or by putting  $y = 0$  in Taylor's.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Expand  $u_1 = (x + y)^n$  by Taylor's theorem. Put  $y = 0$  and  $u = x^n$ , as indicated above,

$$\therefore \frac{du}{dx} = nx^{n-1}; \quad \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} = n(n-1)x^{n-2}, \text{ etc.}$$

Substitute the values of these derivatives in (7).

$$\therefore u_1 = (x + y)^n = x^n + nx^{n-1}y + \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)x^{n-2}y^2 + \dots$$

(2) If  $k = \log a$ ;  $u_1 = a^{x+y} = a^x(1 + ky + \frac{1}{2}k^2y^2 + \frac{1}{6}k^3y^3 + \dots)$ .

(3) Show  $(x + y + a)^{\frac{1}{2}} = (x + a)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{2}y(x + a)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - \dots$ . If  $x = -a$ , the development fails.

$$(4) \text{ Show } \sin(x + y) = \sin x \left(1 - \frac{y^2}{2!} + \frac{y^4}{4!} - \dots\right) + \cos x \left(y - \frac{y^3}{3!} + \dots\right).$$

(5) The numerical tables of the trigonometrical functions are calculated by means of Taylor's or by Maclaurin's theorems. For example, by Maclaurin's theorem,

$$\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \dots; \quad \cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \dots$$

But  $35^\circ = .610865$  radians, and  $\therefore \sin 35^\circ = \sin .610865$ . Consequently,

$$\sin 35^\circ = .610865 - \frac{1}{6}(.610865)^3 + \frac{1}{120}(.610865)^5 - \dots = .57357 \dots$$

In the same way, show that  $\cos 35^\circ = .81915 \dots$ . Again by Taylor's theorem,  $\sin 36^\circ = \sin(35^\circ + 1^\circ)$ ;

$$\therefore \sin 36^\circ = \sin 35^\circ + \frac{\cos 35^\circ}{1!}(.017453) - \frac{\sin 35^\circ}{2!}(.017453)^2 - \dots = .58778 \dots$$

(6) Taylor's theorem is used in tabulating the values of a function for different values of the variable. Suppose we want the value of  $y = x(24 - x^2)$  for values of  $x$  ranging from 2.7 to 3.3. First draw up a set of values of the successive differential coefficients of  $y$ .

$$f(x) = f(3) = x(24 - x^2) = 45; \quad f'(x) = f'(3) = 24 - 3x^2 = -3;$$

$$f''(x) = f''(3) = -6x = -18; \quad f'''(x) = f'''(3) = -6.$$

By Taylor's theorem,

$$f(3 \pm h) = f(3) \pm f'(3)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(3)h^2 \pm \frac{1}{6}f'''(3)h^3 = 45 \mp 3h - 9h^2 \mp h^3.$$

But  $2.7 = 3 - 0.3$ ;  $2.8 = 3 - 0.2$ ; ...,  $3.8 = 3 + 0.3$ . Hence,

$$f(2.7) = 45 + 0.9 - 0.81 + 0.027 = 45.117.$$

$$f(2.8) = 45 + 0.6 - 0.36 + 0.008 = 45.148.$$

$$f(2.9) = 45 + 0.3 - 0.09 + 0.001 = 45.211.$$

$$f(3.0) = 45 = 45.000.$$

$$f(3.1) = 45 - 0.3 - 0.09 - 0.001 = 44.609.$$

$$f(3.2) = 45 - 0.6 - 0.36 - 0.008 = 44.032.$$

$$f(3.3) = 45 - 0.9 - 0.81 - 0.027 = 43.263.$$

(7) Show  $\log(x + y) = \log x + \frac{y}{x} - \frac{y^2}{2x^2} + \frac{y^3}{3x^3} - \dots$

(8) Expand  $\log(n + h)$  and also  $\log(n + 1)$ . Observe that we can neglect terms containing second powers of  $h$ , if  $h$  is less than unity, and  $n$  is large. Thus, if  $h < 1$ , and  $n$  is 10,000,  $h/n < 0.0001$ ; the second term of the expansion is less than 0.000000,005; and the next term still less again. By division of the two expansions, we get the important result,

$$\frac{\log(n + h) - \log n}{\log(n + 1) - \log n} = \frac{h}{1}. \quad (9)$$

or,

Incr. when  $\log n$  becomes  $\log(n + h)$  : Incr. when  $\log n$  becomes  $\log(n + 1) = h : 1$ , provided the differences between two numbers  $n$  and  $h$  are such that  $n$  is of the order of 10,000 when  $x$  is less than unity. This formula, known as the rule of proportional parts, is used for finding the exact logarithm of a number containing more digits than the table of logarithms allows for, or for finding the number corresponding to a logarithm not exactly coinciding with those in the tables. The following examples will make this clear:—

(9) Find the logarithm of 46502.32, having given

$$\log 46501 = 4.6674623; \log 46502 = 4.6674716; \text{ difference} = 0.0000093.$$

Let  $h$  denote the quantity to be added to the smaller of the given logs. The problem may be stated thus,

$$\log n = \log 46501 = 4.6674623;$$

$$\log(n + 1) = \log(46501 + 1) = 4.6674623 + 0.0000093;$$

$$\log(n + h) = \log(46501 + 0.32) = 4.6674623 + x.$$

By (9), that is, by simple rule of three: if a difference of 1 unit in a number corresponds with a difference of 0.0000093 in the logarithm, what difference in the logarithm will arise when the number is augmented by 0.32?

$$\therefore 1 : 0.32 = 0.0000093 : x, \therefore x = 0.00000293 \dots$$

The required logarithm is, therefore, 4.6674653.

Again, find the number whose logarithm is 4.6816223, having given

$$\log 48042 = 4.6816211; \log 48043 = 4.6816301.$$

Since a difference of unity in the number causes a difference of 0.0000090 in the logarithm, what will be the difference in the number when the logarithms differ by 0.0000012?

$$\therefore 1 : h = 0.0000090 : 0.0000012; \therefore h = 0.13. \text{ The number is } 48042.13.$$

(10) Show  $\log(1 + y) = y - \frac{1}{2}y^2 + \frac{1}{3}y^3 - \frac{1}{4}y^4 + \dots$

This series may be employed for evaluating  $\log 2$ , but as the series happens to be divergent for numbers greater than 2, and very slowly convergent for numbers less than 2, it is not suited for general computations.

(11) Show  $\log(1 - y) = -(y + \frac{1}{2}y^2 + \frac{1}{3}y^3 + \frac{1}{4}y^4 + \dots)$ .

If  $y = 4$ , the development gives a divergent series and the theorem is then said to fail. The last four examples are logarithmic series.

A series suitable for finding the numerical values of logarithms may here be indicated as a subject of general interest, but of no particular utility since we can purchase "ready-made tables from a penny upwards". But the principle involved has useful applications.

Subtract the series in Ex. (11) from that in Ex. (10) and we get

$$\log \frac{1+y}{1-y} = 2\left(y + \frac{y^3}{3} + \frac{y^5}{5} + \frac{y^7}{7} + \dots\right),$$

a series slowly convergent when  $y$  is less than unity. Let  $n$  have a value greater than unity. Put

$$\frac{n+1}{n} = \frac{1+y}{1-y}, \text{ so that } y = \frac{1}{2n+1}.$$

Hence, when  $n$  is greater than unity,  $y$  is less than unity. By substitution, therefore,

$$\log(n+1) = \log n + 2\left(\frac{1}{2n+1} + \frac{1}{3(2n+1)^3} + \dots\right).$$

This series is rapidly convergent. It enables us to compute the numerical value of  $\log(n+1)$  when the value of  $\log n$  is known. Thus starting with  $n = 1$ ,  $\log n = 0$ , the series then gives the value of  $\log 2$ , hence, we get the value of  $\log 3$ , then of  $\log 4$ , etc.

(12) Put  $y = -x$  in Taylor's expansion, and show that

$$f(x) = f(0) + f'(x) \cdot x - \frac{1}{2}f''(x) \cdot x^2 + \dots,$$

known as Bernoulli's series (of historical interest, published 1694).

Mathematical text-books, at this stage, proceed to discuss the conditions under which the sum of the individual terms of Taylor's series is really equal to  $f(x+y)$ . When the given function  $f(x+y)$  is finite, the sum of the corresponding series must also be finite, in other words, the series must either be finite or convergent. The development is said to fail when the series is divergent.

It is not here intended to show how mathematicians have succeeded in placing Taylor's series on a satisfactory basis. That subject belongs to the realms of pure mathematics.<sup>1</sup> The reader may exercise "belief based on suitable evidence outside personal experience," otherwise known as faith. This will require no great mental effort on the part of the student of the physical sciences. He has to apply the very highest orders of faith to the fundamental

---

<sup>1</sup> If the student is at all curious, Todhunter, or Williamson on "Lagrange's Theorem on the Limits of Taylor's Series," is always available.

principles—the inscrutables—of these sciences, namely, to the theory of atoms, stereochemistry, affinity, the existence and properties of interstellar ether, the origin of energy, etc., etc. What is more, “reliance on the *dicta* and *data* of investigators whose very names may be unknown, lies at the very foundation of physical science, and without this faith in authority the structure would fall to the ground ; not the blind faith in authority of the unreasoning kind that prevailed in the Middle Ages, but a rational belief in the concurrent testimony of individuals who have recorded the results of their experiments and observations, and whose statements can be verified ...”.<sup>1</sup>

The rest of this chapter will be mainly concerned with direct or indirect applications of infinite converging series.

### § 99. The Contact of Curves.

The following is a geometrical illustration of one meaning of the different terms in Taylor's development. If four curves  $Pa$ ,  $Pb$ ,  $Pc$ ,  $Pd$ , ... (Fig. 123) have a common point  $P$ , any curve, say  $Pc$ , which passes between two others,  $Pb$ ,  $Pd$ , is said to have a closer contact with  $Pb$  than  $Pd$ . Now let two curves  $P_0P$  and  $P_0P_1$  (Fig. 124) referred to the same rectangular axes, have equations,

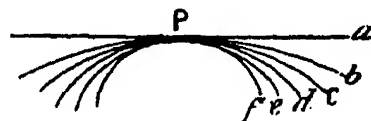


FIG. 123.—Contact of Curves.

$$y = f(x) ; \text{ and, } y_1 = f_1(x_1). \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

Let the abscissa of each curve at any given point, be increased by a small amount  $h$ , then, by Taylor's theorem,

$$f(x + h) = y + \frac{dy}{dx}h + \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \frac{h^2}{2!} + \dots$$

$$f_1(x_1 + h) = y_1 + \frac{dy_1}{dx_1}h + \frac{d^2y_1}{dx_1^2} \frac{h^2}{2!} + \dots \quad (2)$$

If the curves have a common point  $P_0$ ,  $x = x_1$ , and  $y = y_1$  at the point of contact. Since the first differential coefficient represents the angle made by a tangent with the  $x$ -axis, if, at the point  $P_0$ ,

$$x = x_1 ; y = y_1, \text{ and } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy_1}{dx_1},$$

<sup>1</sup> Excerpt from the Presidential Address of Dr. Carrington Bolton to the Washington Chemical Society, *English Mechanic*, 5th April, 1901.



the curves will have a common tangent at  $P_0$ . This is called a **contact of the first order**. If, however,

$$x = x_1, y = y_1; \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy_1}{dx_1}; \text{ and } \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{d^2y_1}{dx_1^2},$$

the curves are said to have a **contact of the second order**, and so on for the higher orders of contact.

If all the terms in the two equations are equal the two curves will be identical; the greater the number of equal terms in the two series, the closer will be the order of contact of the two curves. If the order of contact is even, the curves will intersect at their common point; if the order of contact is odd, the curves will not cross each other at the point of contact.

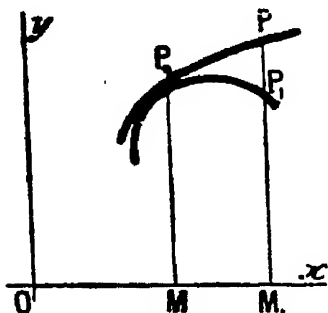


FIG. 124.—Contact of Curves.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Show that the curves  $y = -x^2$ , and  $y = 3x - x^2$  intersect at the point  $x = 0, y = 0$ . Hint. The first differential coefficients are not equal to one another when we put  $x = 1$ . Thus, in the first case,  $dy/dx = -2x = -2 \neq 0$ ; and in the second,  $dy/dx = 3 - 2x = 1$ .

(2) Show that the tangent crosses a curve at a point of inflexion. Let the equation of the curve be  $y = f(x)$ ; of the tangent,  $Ax + By + C = 0$ . The necessary condition for a point of inflexion in the curve  $y = f(x)$  is that  $d^2y/dx^2 = 0$ . But for the equation of the tangent,  $d^2y/dx^2$  is also zero. Hence, there is a contact of the second order at the point of inflexion, and the tangent crosses the curve.

## § 100. Extension of Taylor's Theorem.

Taylor's theorem may be extended so as to include the expansion of functions of two or more independent variables. Let

$$u = f(x, y), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are independent of each other. Suppose each variable changes independently so that  $x$  becomes  $x + h$ , and  $y$  becomes  $y + k$ . First, let  $f(x, y)$  change to  $f(x + h, y)$ . By Taylor's theorem

$$f(x + h, y) = u + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}h + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \frac{h^2}{2!} + \dots \quad (2)$$

If  $y$  now becomes  $y + k$ , each term of equation (2) will change so that

$$u \text{ becomes } u + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}k + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \frac{k^2}{2!} + \dots;$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \text{ becomes } \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} k + \dots; \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \text{ becomes } \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^2 \partial y} k + \dots,$$

by Taylor's theorem. Now substitute these values in (2) and we obtain, if  $u'$  denotes the value of  $u$  when  $x$  becomes  $x + h$ , and  $y$  becomes  $y + k$ ,

$$u' = f(x + h, y + k);$$

$$u' = u + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} k + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \frac{k^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} h k + \dots + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} h + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \frac{h^2}{2!} + \dots$$

$$\delta u = u' - u = f(x + h, y + k) - f(x, y);$$

$$\delta u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} h + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} k + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} h^2 + 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} h k + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} k^2 \right) + \dots \quad (3)$$

The final result is exactly the same whether we expand first with respect to  $y$  or in the reverse order.

By equating the coefficients of  $hk$  in the identical results obtained by first expanding with regard to  $h$ , (2) above, and by first expanding with regard to  $k$ , we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x},$$

which was obtained another way in page 77. The investigation may be extended to functions of any number of variables.

## § 101. The Determination of Maximum and Minimum Values of a Function by means of Taylor's Series.

### *I. Functions of one variable.*

Taylor's theorem is sometimes useful in seeking the maximum and the minimum values of a function, say,

$$u = f(x).$$

It is required to find particular values of  $x$  in order that  $y$  may be a maximum or a minimum. If  $x$  changes by a small amount  $h$ , Taylor's theorem tells us that

$$f(x \pm h) - f(x) = \pm \frac{du}{dx} h + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} h^2 \pm \frac{1}{6} \frac{d^3 u}{dx^3} h^3 + \dots, \quad (1)$$

according as  $h$  is added to or subtracted from  $x$ .

First, it must be proved that  $h$  can be made so small that the term  $\frac{du}{dx} h$  will be greater than the sum of all succeeding terms of either series. Assume that Taylor's series may be written,

$$f(x + h) = u + Ah + Bh^2 + Ch^3 + \dots,$$

where  $A, B, C, \dots$  are coefficients independent of  $h$  but dependent

upon  $x$ , then, if  $Rh = Bh + Ch^2 + \dots = (B + Ch + \dots)h$ , and

$$f(x + h) = u + h(A + Rh). \quad (2)$$

Consequently, for sufficiently small values of  $h$ , it will be obvious that  $Rh$  must be less than  $A$ .

Let us put

$$\delta u = f(x \pm h) - f(x).$$

If  $u$  is really a maximum, ever so small a change—increase or decrease—in the value of  $x$  will diminish the value of  $u$ ; and  $f(x)$  must be greater than  $f(x \pm h)$ . Hence, for a maximum,

$$\delta u = f(x \pm h) - f(x) \text{ must be negative.}$$

Again, if  $u$  is really a minimum, then  $u$  will be augmented when  $x$  is increased or diminished by  $h$ . In other words, if  $u$  is a minimum,

$$\delta u = f(x \pm h) - f(x) \text{ must be positive.}$$

ILLUSTRATION.—The function  $u = 4x^3 - 3x^2 - 18x$  will be a maximum when  $x = -1$ . In that case,  $f(x) = 11$ ; if we put some small quantity, say  $\frac{1}{4}$ , in place of  $h$ , then  $f(x + h) = +\frac{21}{4}$ , and  $f(x - h) = +\frac{17}{4}$ . Hence,  $f(x \pm h) - f(x)$  will be either  $-\frac{1}{4}$ , or  $-\frac{1}{4}$ . You can also show in the same manner that  $u$  will be a minimum when  $x = \frac{3}{2}$ .

Now if  $h$  is made small enough, we have just proved that the higher derivatives in equations (1) will become vanishingly small; and so long as the first derivative,  $du/dx$ , remains finite, the algebraic sign of  $\delta u$  will be the same as

$$\delta u = \frac{du}{dx}h.$$

At a turning point—maximum or minimum—we must have, as explained in an earlier chapter,

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 0.$$

Substituting this in the above series,

$$\delta u = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{d^2u}{dx^2}h^2 \pm \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{d^3u}{dx^3}h^3 + \dots$$

remains. Now  $h$  may be taken so small that the derivatives higher than the second become vanishingly small, and so long as  $d^2u/dx^2$  remains finite, the sign  $\delta u$  will be the same as that of

$$\delta u = \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} \cdot \frac{h^2}{2}.$$

But  $h^2$ , being the square of a number, must be positive. The sign of the second differential coefficient will, in consequence, be the same as that of  $\delta u$ . But  $u = f(x)$  is a maximum or a minimum according as  $\delta u$  is negative or positive. This means that  $y$  will be

a maximum when  $dy/dx = 0$  and  $d^2y/dx^2$  is negative, and a minimum, if  $d^2y/dx^2$  is positive.

If, however, the second differential coefficient vanishes, the reasoning used in connection with the first differential must be applied to the third differential coefficient. If the third derivative vanishes, a similar relation holds between the second and fourth differential coefficients. See Table I., page 168. Hence the rules:—

1.  $y$  is either a maximum or a minimum for a given value of  $x$  only when the first non-vanishing derivative, for this value of  $x$ , is even.

2.  $y$  is a maximum or a minimum according as the sign of the non-vanishing derivative of an even order, is negative or positive.

In practice, if the first derivative vanishes, it is often convenient to test by substitution whether  $y$  changes from a positive to a negative value. If there is no change of sign, there is neither a maximum nor a minimum. For example, in

$$y = x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x + 7; \therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 6x + 3.$$

For a maximum or a minimum, we must have

$$x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0; \therefore x = 1.$$

If  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 7$ ; if  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 8$ ; if  $x = 2$ ,  $y = 9$ . There is no change of sign and  $x = 1$  will not make the function a maximum or a minimum.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Test  $y = x^3 - 12x^2 - 60x$  for maximum or minimum values.  $dy/dx = 3x^2 - 24x - 60$ ;  $\therefore x^2 - 8x - 20 = 0$ , or  $x = -2$ , or  $+10$ .  $d^2y/dx^2 = 6x - 24$ ; or,  $x = +4$ . Since  $d^2y/dx^2$  is positive when  $x = 10$  is substituted,  $x = 10$  will make  $y$  a minimum. When  $-2$  is substituted,  $d^2y/dx^2$  becomes negative, hence  $x = -2$  will make  $y$  a maximum. This can easily be verified by plotting (Fig. 125), for, if

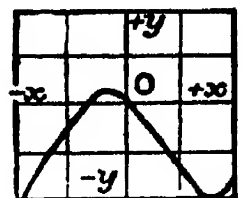


FIG. 125.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} x = -3, & -2, & -1, & \dots + 9, & +10, & +11, \dots \\ y = +45, & +64 \text{ (max.)}, & +48, & \dots - 783, & -800 \text{ (min.)}, & -781, \dots \end{array}$$

(2) What value of  $x$  will make  $y$  a maximum or a minimum in the expression,  $y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x + 6$ ?

$$dy/dx = 3x^2 - 12x + 11 = 0; \therefore$$

$$x = 2 \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}; d^2y/dx^2 = 6x - 12. \text{ If}$$

$$x = 2 + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}, d^2y/dx^2 = 6\sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} = +2\sqrt{3};$$

$$\text{and if } x = 2 - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}, d^2y/dx^2 = -2\sqrt{3}.$$

Hence  $2 + \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}$  makes  $y$  a minimum, and

$2 - \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}$  makes  $y$  a maximum (see Fig. 126).

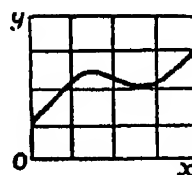


FIG. 126.

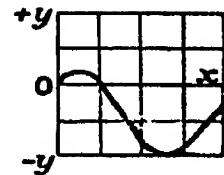


FIG. 127.

(3) Show that  $x^3 - 9x^2 + 15x - 3$  is a

maximum when  $x = 1$ , and a minimum when  $x = 5$ . The graph is shown in Fig. 127.

## II. Functions of two variables.

To find particular values of  $x$  and  $y$  which will make the function,

$$u = f(x, y),$$

a maximum or a minimum. As before, when  $x$  changes by a small amount  $h$ , and  $y$  by a small amount  $k$ , if  $f(x, y)$  is greater than  $f(x \pm h, y \pm k)$ , for all values of  $h$  or  $k$ , then  $f(x, y)$  is a maximum. Hence, if

$$\delta u = f(x \pm h, y \pm k) - f(x, y) \text{ is negative,}$$

$u$  will be a maximum; whereas when  $f(x, y)$  is less than  $f(x \pm h, y \pm k)$ ,

$$\delta u = f(x \pm h, y \pm k) - f(x, y) \text{ is positive,}$$

and  $u$  will be a minimum.

ILLUSTRATION.—The function  $u = x^2y + xy^2 - 3xy$  will be a minimum when  $x = 1$  and  $y = 1$ . In that case  $f(x, y) = -1$ ; and if we put  $h = \frac{1}{2}$ , and  $k = \frac{1}{2}$ —any other small quantity will do just as well—then  $f(x + h, y + k) = 0$ ; and  $f(x - h, y - k) = -\frac{1}{2}$ . Hence,  $f(x \pm h, y \pm k) - f(x, y) = +1$ , or  $+\frac{1}{2}$ .

Also, let

$$\delta u = f(x + h, y + k) - f(x, y).$$

Let us now expand this function as indicated in the preceding section, and we get

$$\delta u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}h + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}k + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}h^2 + 2\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y}hk + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}k^2\right) + \dots \quad (3)$$

By making the values of  $h$  and  $k$  small enough, the higher orders of differentials become vanishingly small. But as long as  $\partial u / \partial x$  and  $\partial u / \partial y$  remain finite, the algebraic sign of  $\delta u$  will be that of

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)_y h + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)_x k.$$

At a turning point—maximum or a minimum—we must have

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}h + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}k = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

and, since  $h$  and  $k$  are independent of each other, and the sign of  $\delta u$ , in (4), depends on the signs of  $h$  and  $k$ ,  $u$  can have a maximum or a minimum value only when

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)_y = 0; \text{ and } \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)_x = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

We can perhaps get a clearer mental picture of what we are talking about if we imagine an undulating surface lying above the  $xy$ -plane. At the top of an *isolated* hill,  $P$  (Fig. 128),  $u$  will be a maximum; at the bottom of a valley or lake,  $Q$ ,  $u$  will be a minimum. The surface can only be horizontal at the point where  $\partial u/\partial x$  and  $\partial u/\partial y$  are both zero. At this point,  $u$  will be either a maximum or a minimum. It is easy to see that if  $APBC$  is a surface represented by  $u = f(x, y)$ ,  $\partial u/\partial x$  is the slope of the surface along  $AP$ , and  $\partial u/\partial y$ , the slope along  $BP$ . The line  $Pb$  represents the slope  $\partial u/\partial x$  at  $P$ , and  $Pa$  the slope  $\partial u/\partial y$  at  $P$ .

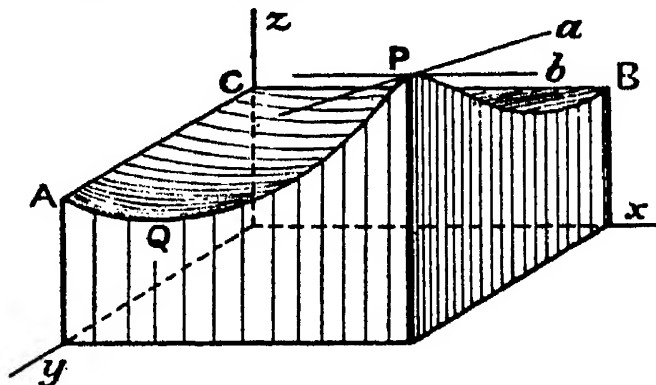


FIG. 128.

If  $u$  is really a maximum, it follows from our previous work, page 159, that  $\partial^2 u/\partial x^2$  and  $\partial^2 u/\partial y^2$  must be negative, just as surely as if  $P$  is really the top of a hill, movement in the directions  $Pb$ , or  $Pa$  must be down hill. And similarly, if we are really at the bottom of a valley,  $\partial^2 u/\partial x^2$  and  $\partial^2 u/\partial y^2$  must be both positive.

Let us now examine the sign of  $\delta u$  in (3) when  $\partial u/\partial x$  and  $\partial u/\partial y$  are made zero;  $h$  and  $k$  can be made so small that

$$\delta u = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} h^2 + 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} h k + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} k^2 \right) \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

remains. For the sake of brevity, write the homogeneous quadratic (6) in the form

$$ah^2 + 2bhk + ck^2. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

Add and subtract  $b^2 k^2/a$ ; rearrange terms, and we get the equivalent form

$$\frac{1}{a} \left\{ (ah + bk)^2 + (ac - b^2)k^2 \right\}, \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

which enables us to see at a glance that for small values of  $h$  and  $k$  the sign of (7), or (6), is independent of  $h$  and  $k$  only when  $ac - b^2$  is positive or zero, for if  $ac - b^2$  is negative, the expression will be positive when  $k = 0$ , and negative when  $ah + bk$  is zero. Consequently, in order that we may have a real maximum or minimum,  $ac$  must be greater than  $b^2$ ; or what is the same thing,

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \times \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \text{ must be greater than } \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2. \quad . \quad (9)$$

This is called **Lagrange's criterion for maximum and minimum values of a function of two variables**. When this criterion is satisfied  $f(x, y)$  will either be a maximum or a minimum. To summarize, in order that  $u = f(x, y)$  may be a maximum or a minimum, we must have

$$(1) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0; \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0.$$

$$(2) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \text{ negative, if } u \text{ is a maximum; positive, if } u \text{ is a minimum.}$$

$$(3) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \times \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} - \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2 \text{ must not be negative.}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \times \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \text{ is less than } \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2, \quad (10)$$

or  $\partial^2 u / \partial x^2$  and  $\partial^2 u / \partial y^2$  have different signs, the function is neither a maximum nor a minimum. If a man were travelling across a mountain pass he might reach a maximum height in the direction in which he was travelling, yet if he were to diverge on either side of the path he would ascend to higher ground. This is not therefore a true maximum. A similar thing might be said of a "bar" across a valley for a minimum. If

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \times \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2, \quad (11)$$

there will probably be neither a maximum nor a minimum, but the higher derivatives must be examined before we can definitely decide this question.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Show that the velocity of a bimolecular chemical reaction  $V = k(a - x)(b - x)$  is greatest when  $a = b$ . Here  $\partial V / \partial a = -k(b - x)$ ;  $\partial V / \partial b = -k(a - x)$ . Hence if  $k(b - x) = 0$ ; and  $k(a - x) = 0$ ,  $a = b$ , etc.

(2) Test the function  $u = x^3 + y^3 - 3axy$  for maxima or minima. Here  $\partial u / \partial x = 3x^2 - 3ay = 0$ ,  $\therefore y = x^2/a$ ;  $\partial u / \partial y = 3y^2 - 3ax = 0$ ,  $\therefore y^2 - ax = x^3/a^2 - ax = 0$ ;  $\therefore x = 0$ ,  $x^3 - a^3 = 0$ , or  $x = a$ . The other roots, being imaginary, are neglected;  $\therefore y = x^2/a = a$ , or  $y = 0$ ;

$$\therefore \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 6x; \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = -3a; \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 6y.$$

Call these derivatives (a), (b), and (c) respectively, then if  $x = 0$ , (a) = 0, (b) = -3a, (c) = 0; if  $x = a$ , (a) = 6a, (b) = -3a, (c) = 6a;

$$\therefore \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}; \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 36a^2; \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2 = 9a^2.$$

This means that  $x = y = a$  will make the function a minimum because  $\partial^2 u / \partial x^2$  is positive;  $x = 0$  will give neither a maximum nor a minimum.

(3) Find the condition that the rectangular parallelopiped whose edges are  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  shall have a minimum surface  $u$  when its volume is  $v^3$ . Since

$v^3 = xyz$ ,  $u = xy + yz + zx = xy + v^3/x + v^3/y$ . When  $\partial u/\partial x = 0$ ,  $x^2y = v^3$ ; when  $\partial u/\partial y = 0$ ,  $xy^2 = v^3$ . The only real roots of these equations are  $x = y = v$ , therefore  $z = v$ . The sides of the box are, therefore, equal to each other.

(4) Show that  $u = x^3y^2(1 - x - y)$  is a maximum when  $x = \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $y = \frac{1}{3}$ .

(5) Find the maximum value of  $u$  in  $u = x^3 - 3ax^2 - 4ay^2$ .  $\partial u/\partial x = 3x(x - 2a)$ ;  $\partial u/\partial y = -8ay$ ;  $\partial^2 u/\partial x^2 = 6(x - a)$ ;  $\partial^2 u/\partial x \partial y = 0$ ;  $\partial^2 u/\partial y^2 = -8a$ . Condition (5) is satisfied by  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$  and by  $x = 2a$ ,  $y = 0$ . The former alone satisfies Lagrange's condition (9), the latter comes under (10).

(6) In Fig. 129, let  $P_1$  be a luminous point;  $OM_1$ ,  $OM_2$  are mirrors at right angles to each other. The image of  $P_1$  is reflected at  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  in such a way that (i) the angles of incidence and reflection are equal, (ii) the length of the path  $P_1N_1N_2P_2$  is the shortest possible. (Fermat's principle: "a ray of light passes from one point to another by the path which makes the time of transit a minimum".) Let  $i_1 = r_1$ ,  $i_2 = r_2$  be the angles of incidence and reflection as shown in the figure. To find the position of  $N_1$  and  $N_2$ :

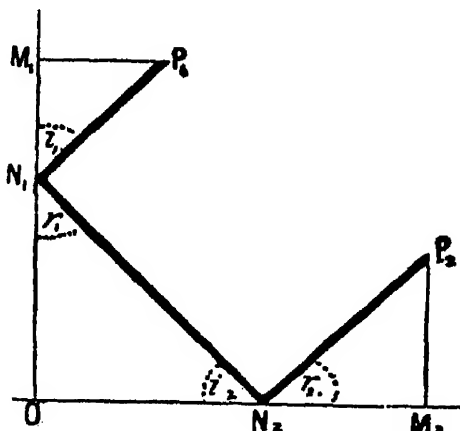


FIG. 129.

Let  $ON_2 = x$ ;  $ON_1 = y$ ;  $OM_2 = a_1$ ;  $M_1P_1 = a_2$ ;  $M_2P_2 = b_2$ ;  $OM_1 = b_1$ . Let  $s = P_1N_1 + N_1N_2 + N_2P_2 = \sqrt{a_2^2 + (b_1 - y)^2} + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} + \sqrt{(a_1 - x)^2 + b_2^2}$ . Find  $\partial s/\partial x$  and  $\partial s/\partial y$ . Equate to zero, etc. The final result is

$$x = (a_2b_1 - a_1b_2)/(b_1 + b_2); \quad y = (a_2b_1 - a_1b_2)/(a_1 + a_2).$$

Note that  $x/y = (a_1 + a_2)/(b_1 + b_2)$ . Work out the same problem when the angle  $M_2OM_1 = \alpha$ .

(7) Required the volume of the greatest rectangular box that can be sent by "Parcel Post" in accord with the regulation: "length plus girth must not exceed six feet". Ansr. 1 ft.  $\times$  1 ft.  $\times$  2 ft. = 2 c.ft. Hint.  $V = xyz$  is to be a maximum when  $V = x + 2(y + z) = 6$ . But obviously  $y = z$ ,  $\therefore V = xy^2$  is to be a maximum, etc.

(8) Required the greatest cylindrical case that can be sent under the same regulation. Ansr. Length 2 ft., diameter  $4/\pi$  ft., capacity 2.55 c.ft. Hint. Volume of cylinder = area of base  $\times$  height, or,  $\frac{1}{4}\pi lD^2$  is to be a maximum when the length + the perimeter of the cylinder = 6, i.e.,  $l + \pi D = 6$ . Obviously  $l$  and  $D$  denote the respective length and diameter of the cylinder.

(9) Prove that the sum of three positive quantities,  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$ , whose product is constant, is greatest when those quantities are equal. Hint. Let  $xyz = a$ ;  $x + y + z = u$ . Hence  $u = a/yz + y + z$ ;  $\therefore \partial u/\partial y = -a/y^2z + 1 = 0$ ;  $\partial u/\partial z = -a/yz^2 + 1 = 0$ ;  $\therefore y = x$ ,  $u = x$ ;  $\therefore x = y = z = \sqrt[3]{a}$ . To show that  $u$  is a minimum, note  $\partial^2 u/\partial x^2 = +3a/x^4$ .

### III. Functions of three variables.

Without going into details I shall simply state that if we are dealing with three variables  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ , such that





But if  $y$  and  $z$  are independent, we also have

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \lambda \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}\right) dy = 0; \quad \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \lambda \frac{\partial v}{\partial z}\right) dz = 0.$$

Hence, we have the three equations

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \lambda \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = 0; \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \lambda \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0; \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \lambda \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} = 0,$$

together with  $\phi(x, y, z) = 0$ , for evaluating  $x, y, z$ , and  $\lambda$ . This is called **Lagrange's method of undetermined multipliers**. To illustrate the application of these facts in the determination of maxima and minima, let us turn to the following examples:—

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Find the greatest value of  $V = 8xyz$ , subject to the condition that  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ . By differentiation,

$$x dx + y dy + z dz = 0; \quad \text{and} \quad yz dx + xs dy + xy dz = 0.$$

For a maximum, we must have

$$ys + \lambda x = 0; \quad xs + \lambda y = 0; \quad xy + \lambda z = 0.$$

Multiply these equations respectively by  $x, y$ , and  $z$ , so that

$$xyz + \lambda x^2 = 0; \quad xyz + \lambda y^2 = 0; \quad xyz + \lambda z^2 = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (19)$$

By addition

$$3xyz + \lambda(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) = 0. \quad \therefore \frac{3}{8}V + \lambda = 0; \quad \text{or, } \lambda = -\frac{3}{8}V.$$

Substitute this value of  $\lambda$  in equation (19), and we get

$$x = \sqrt{3}; \quad y = \sqrt{3}; \quad z = \sqrt{3}; \quad \therefore V = 8/3\sqrt{3}.$$

(2) Find the rectangular parallelopiped of maximum surface which can be inscribed in a sphere whose equation is  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$ . The surface of the parallelopiped is  $s = 8(xy + xs + ys)$ , where  $2x, 2y$ , and  $2z$  are the lengths of its three coterminal edges. By differentiation,  $x dx + y dy + z dz = 0$ ;  $(y+z)dx + (x+z)dy + (y+x)dz = 0$ . For a maximum, therefore,  $y+z+\lambda x=0$ ;  $x+z+\lambda y=0$ ;  $x+y+\lambda z=0$ . Proceed as before, and we get finally  $x=y=z$ . Ansr. Cube with edges  $2x = 2r/\sqrt{3}$ .

(3) Find the dimensions of a cistern of maximum capacity that can be formed out of 300 sq. ft. of sheet iron, when there is no lid. Let  $x, y, z$ , respectively = length, breadth and depth. Then,  $xy + 2xs + 2ys = 300$ ; and,  $u = xyz$ , is to be a maximum. Proceed as before, and we get  $x = y = 2z$ . Substitute in the first equation, and we get  $x = y = 10, z = 5$ . Hence the cistern must be 10 ft. long, 10 ft. broad, and 5 ft. deep.

## § 102. Lagrange's Theorem.

Just as Maclaurin's theorem is a special case of Taylor's, so the latter is a special form of the more general Lagrange's theorem, and the latter, in turn, a special form of Laplace's theorem. There is no need for me to enter into extended details, but I shall have something to say about Lagrange's theorem.

If we have an implicit function of three variables,

$$z = y + x\phi(z), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

such that  $x$  and  $y$  have no other relation than is given by the equation (1), each may vary independently of the other. It is required to develop another function of  $z$ , say  $f(z)$ , in ascending powers of  $x$ . Let

$$u = f(z);$$

then, by Maclaurin's theorem,

$$u = u_0 + \left(\frac{du}{dz}\right)_0 \frac{x}{1!} + \left(\frac{d^2u}{dz^2}\right)_0 \frac{x^2}{2!} + \left(\frac{d^3u}{dz^3}\right)_0 \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$

Without going into details, it is found that after evaluating the respective differential coefficients indicated in this series from (1), we get as a final result

$$f(z) = f(y) + \frac{df(y)}{dy} \phi(y) \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{d}{dy} \left[ \frac{df(y)}{dy} \left\{ \phi(y) \right\}^2 \right] \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots, \quad (2)$$

which is known as **Lagrange's theorem**. The application of this series to specific problems is illustrated by the following set of examples:—

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Given  $a - by + cy^2 = 0$ , find  $y$ .

Rearranging the given equation, we get

$$y = \frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{b} y^2; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

and on comparing this with the typical equations (1) and (2), we have

$$f(z) = y, \therefore f(y) = z; \quad \phi(z) = y^2, \quad \phi(y) = z^2; \quad z = a/b; \quad x = c/b.$$

From (2),  $df(y)/dy = 1$ ;  $dz/dz = 1$ , etc.,  $z$  of (1) is  $y$  of (3), therefore,

$$y = z + z^2 \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{d(z^4)}{dz} \cdot \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{d^2(z^6)}{dz^2} \cdot \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots;$$

$$\therefore y = z + z^2 \frac{x}{1!} + 4z^3 \frac{x^2}{2!} + 6 \cdot 5z^4 \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots;$$

$$\therefore y = \frac{a}{b} + \frac{a^2}{b^2} \cdot \frac{c}{b} + \frac{4}{2!} \cdot \frac{a^3}{b^3} \cdot \frac{c^2}{b^2} + \frac{6 \cdot 5}{3!} \cdot \frac{a^4}{b^4} \cdot \frac{c^3}{b^3} + \dots;$$

$$\therefore y = \frac{a}{b} \left( 1 + \frac{ac}{b^2} + \frac{4}{2!} \cdot \frac{a^2 c^2}{b^4} + \frac{6 \cdot 5}{3!} \cdot \frac{a^3 c^3}{b^6} + \dots \right),$$

a series which is identical with that which arises when the least of the two roots of equation (3) is expanded by Taylor's theorem.

(2) Given  $y^3 - ay + b = 0$ , find  $y^n$ . On comparing the given equation

$$y = \frac{b}{a} + \frac{1}{a} y^3,$$

with the typical forms, we see that

$$f(z) = y^n, \therefore f(y) = z^n; \quad \phi(z) = y^3, \therefore \phi(y) = z^3; \quad z = b/a; \quad x = 1/a.$$

$$\therefore y^n = z^n + n z^{n-1} z^3 \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{d(n z^{n-1} z^6)}{dz} \cdot \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots;$$

$$\therefore y^n = \frac{b^n}{a^n} \left( 1 + n \frac{b^2}{a^2} \cdot \frac{1}{a} + \frac{n(n+5)}{2!} \cdot \frac{b^4}{a^4} \cdot \frac{1}{a^2} + \dots \right).$$

(3) In solving the velocity equations

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1(a - x)(a - x - \xi); \quad \frac{d\xi}{dt} = k_2(a - x)(a - x - \xi),$$

for the reaction between propyl iodide and sodium ethylate, W. Hecht, M. Conrad, and O. Brückner (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 4, 273, 1889) found that by division of the two equations, and integration,

$$1 - \frac{x}{a} = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{a}\right)^K,$$

where  $a$  denotes the amount of substance at the beginning of the reaction;  $x$  and  $\xi$  are the amounts decomposed at the time  $t$ ;  $K = k_1/k_2$ ; when  $t = 0$ ,  $x = 0$ , and  $\xi = 0$ . If  $K$  is small, Maclaurin's theorem furnishes the expression

$$1 - \frac{x}{a} = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{a}\right)^K = 1 - K\frac{\xi}{a}; \text{ or, } x = K\xi. \quad (4)$$

If we put  $x + \xi = y$ , we can get a straightforward relation between  $y$  and  $t$ ; for obviously,

$$K\xi + \xi = y; (1 + K)\xi = y; \therefore (1 + K)d\xi = dy;$$

$$\therefore \frac{d\xi}{dt} = k_2(a - \xi)(a - x - \xi); \text{ becomes } \frac{dy}{dt} = k_1(aK + a - y)(a - y),$$

which can be integrated in the ordinary way. But  $K$  was usually too large to allow of the approximation (4). We have therefore to solve the problem: Given

$$1 - \frac{x}{a} = 1 - \frac{y}{a} + \frac{\xi}{a} = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{a}\right)^K, \text{ find } \frac{\xi}{a}.$$

For the sake of brevity write this:

$$1 - x + s = (1 - s)^K, \therefore 1 - x + s = 1 - Ks + \frac{1}{2}K(K - 1)s^2 - \dots; \\ \therefore x = (K + 1)s - K(K - 1)s^2 + \dots = f_1(s). \quad (5)$$

$$\therefore sx = sf_1(s); \therefore s = x \frac{s}{f_1(s)} = x\phi(s). \quad (6)$$

On referring to the fundamental types (1) and (2), we see that

$$f(z) = z, f(y) = y; \phi(z) = \phi(s), \phi(y) = \phi(y); y = 0, x = y; \\ \therefore s = y + \frac{\partial f(y)}{\partial y} \phi(y) \frac{x}{1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \frac{\partial f(y)}{\partial y} \{\phi(y)\}^2 \right] \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots \quad (7)$$

We must now evaluate the separate terms.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(y) = \frac{\partial y}{\partial y} = 1. \quad (8)$$

From (5) and (6),

$$\phi(y) = \frac{y}{f_1(y)} = \frac{y}{(K + 1)y - \frac{1}{2}K(K - 1)y^2 + \dots} = \frac{1}{K + 1}, \quad (9)$$

since  $y = 0$ ; again, from (5), (6), (7), and (8),

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \frac{\partial f(y)}{\partial y} \{\phi(y)\}^2 \right] = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \{\phi(y)\}^2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left\{ \frac{1}{(K + 1) - \frac{1}{2}K(K - 1)y + \dots} \right\}^2 \\ = \frac{2K(K - 1)}{\{(K + 1) - \frac{1}{2}K(K - 1)y + \dots\}^3} = \frac{K(K - 1)}{(K + 1)^3}, \quad (10)$$

since  $y$  is zero. Hence, the required development, from (7), is

$$z = \frac{1}{K+1} \cdot \frac{x}{1} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{K(K-1)}{(K+1)^3} \cdot \left(\frac{x}{2!}\right)^2 + \dots \quad (11)$$

We have put  $z$  for  $\xi/a$ , and  $x$  for  $y/a$ . On restoring the proper values of  $z$  and  $x$  into the given velocity equations, we can get, by integration, a relation between  $y$ ,  $t$ , and constants.

### § 103. Functions requiring special Treatment before Substituting Numbers.

In discussing the velocity of reactions of the second order, we found that if the concentration of the two species of reacting molecules is the same, the expression

$$kt = \frac{1}{a-b} \log \frac{a-x}{b-x} \cdot \frac{a}{b},$$

assumes the indeterminate form

$$kt = \infty \times 0,$$

by substituting  $a = b$ . We are constantly meeting with the same sort of thing when dealing with other functions, which may reduce to one or other of the forms:  $\frac{0}{0}$ ,  $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ ,  $\infty - \infty$ ,  $1^\infty$ ,  $\infty^0$ ,  $0^0$  ... We can say nothing at all about the value of any one of these expressions, and, consequently, we must be prepared to deal with them another way so that they may represent something instead of nothing. They have been termed *illusory*, *indeterminate* and *singular* forms. In one sense, the word "indeterminate" is a misnomer, because it is the object of this section to show how values of such functions may be determined.

Sometimes a simple substitution will make the value apparent at a glance. For instance, the fraction  $(x+a)/(x+b)$  is indeterminate when  $x$  is infinite. Now substitute  $x = y^{-1}$  and it is easy to see that when  $x$  is infinite,  $y$  is zero and consequently,

$$\text{Lt}_{x=\infty} \frac{x+a}{x+b} = \text{Lt}_{y=0} \frac{1+ay}{1+by} = 1.$$

Fractions which assume the form  $\frac{0}{0}$  are called vanishing fractions, thus,  $(x^2 - 4x + 3)/(x^2 - 1)$  reduces to  $\frac{0}{0}$ , when  $x = 1$ . The trouble is due to the fact that the numerator and denominator contain the common factor  $(x - 1)$ . If this be eliminated before the substitution, the true value of the fraction for  $x = 1$  can be obtained. Thus,

$$\frac{x^2 - 4x + 3}{x^2 - 1} = \frac{(x-1)(x-3)}{(x-1)(x+1)} = \frac{x-3}{x+1} = -\frac{2}{2} = -1.$$

These indeterminate functions may often be evaluated by algebraic or trigonometrical methods, but not always. Taylor's theorem furnishes a convenient means of dealing with many of these functions. The most important case for discussion is " $\frac{0}{0}$ ," since this form most frequently occurs and most of the other forms can be referred to it by some special artifice.

*I. The function assumes the form  $\frac{0}{0}$ .*

This form is the so-called **vanishing fraction**. As already pointed out, the numerator and denominator here contain some common factor which vanishes for some particular value of  $x$ , say. These factors must be got rid of. One of the best ways of doing this, short of factorizing at sight, is to substitute  $a + h$  for  $x$  in the numerator and denominator of the fraction and then reduce the fraction to its simplest form. In this way, some power of  $h$  will appear as a common factor of each. After reducing the fraction to its simplest form, put  $h = 0$  so that  $a = x$ . The true value of the fraction for this particular value of the variable  $x$  will then be apparent.

For cases in which  $x$  is to be made equal to zero, the numerator and denominator may be expanded at once by Maclaurin's theorem without any preliminary substitution for  $x$ . For instance, the trigonometrical function  $(\sin x)/x$  approaches unity when  $x$  converges towards zero. This is seen directly. Develop  $\sin x$  in ascending powers of  $x$  by Taylor's or Maclaurin's theorems. We thus obtain

$$\frac{\sin x}{x} = \frac{\left(\frac{x}{1} - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots\right)}{x} = 1 - \frac{x^2}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{5!} - \frac{x^6}{7!} + \dots$$

The terms to the right of unity all vanish when  $x = 0$ , therefore,

$$\text{Lt}_{x=0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show  $\text{Lt}_{x=0} (a^x - b^x)/x = \log a/b$ .

(2) Show  $\text{Lt}_{x=0} (1 - \cos x)/x^2 = \frac{1}{2}$ .

(3) The fraction  $(x^n - a^n)/(x - a)$  becomes  $\frac{0}{0}$  when  $x = a$ . Put  $x = a + h$  and expand by Taylor's theorem in the usual way. Thus,

$$\text{Lt}_{x=a} \frac{x^n - a^n}{x - a} = \text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{(a + h)^n - a^n}{h} = na^{n-1}.$$

It is rarely necessary to expand more than two or three of the lowest powers of  $h$ . The intermediate steps are

$$\text{Lt}_{h=0} \frac{(a^n + na^{n-1}h + \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)a^{n-2}h^2 + \dots) - a^n}{a + h - a}.$$

U

Cancel out  $a^n$  in the numerator, and  $a$  in the denominator; divide out the  $h$ 's and put  $h = 0$ .

(4) The velocity,  $V$ , of a body falling from rest in a resisting medium after an interval of time  $t$ , is

$$V = \frac{1}{\beta} \cdot \frac{e^{2g\beta t} - 1}{e^{2g\beta t} + 1}; \therefore V = gt,$$

when the coefficient of resistance,  $\beta$ , is made zero. Hint. Expand the numerator only before substituting  $\beta = 0$ .

(5) Show that  $\text{Lt}_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \log \left( 1 + \frac{h}{x} \right) = \frac{1}{x}$ , as on page 51.

(6) If  $H$  denotes the height which a body must fall in order to acquire a velocity,  $V$ , then

$$H = \frac{1}{2gk^2} \log \frac{1}{1 - k^2 V^2}, \therefore H = \frac{V^2}{2g} \left( 1 + \frac{(kV)^2}{2} + \frac{(kV)^4}{4} + \dots \right),$$

where  $k$  is the coefficient of resistance. If  $k=0$ , show that  $H = \frac{1}{2} V^2/g$ .

We can generalize the preceding discussion. Let

$$\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f_1(x)}{f_2(x)} = \frac{f_1(a)}{f_2(a)} = \frac{0}{0}. \quad (1)$$

Obviously,

$$f_1(a) = f_2(a) = 0. \quad (2)$$

Expand the two given functions by Taylor's theorem,

$$\frac{f_1(x+h)}{f_2(x+h)} = \frac{f_1(x) + f_1'(x)h + \frac{1}{2}f_1''(x)h^2 + \dots}{f_2(x) + f_2'(x)h + \frac{1}{2}f_2''(x)h^2 + \dots}. \quad (3)$$

Now substitute  $x = a$ , and  $f_1(a) = f_2(a) = 0$  as in (2); divide by  $h$ ; and

$$\frac{f_1(a+h)}{f_2(a+h)} = \frac{f_1'(a) + \frac{1}{2}f_1''(a)h + \dots}{f_2'(a) + \frac{1}{2}f_2''(a)h + \dots}. \quad (4)$$

remains.

$$\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f_1(a+h)}{f_2(a+h)} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f_1'(a) + \frac{1}{2}f_1''(a)h + \dots}{f_2'(a) + \frac{1}{2}f_2''(a)h + \dots}. \quad (5)$$

$$\therefore \frac{f_1(a)}{f_2(a)} = \frac{f_1'(a)}{f_2'(a)}; \text{ and } \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f_1(x)}{f_2(x)} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f_1'(x)}{f_2'(x)}. \quad (6)$$

In words, if the fraction  $f_1(x)/f_2(x)$  becomes  $\frac{0}{0}$ , when  $x = a$ , the fraction can be evaluated by dividing the first derivative of the numerator by the first derivative of the denominator, and substituting  $x = a$  in the result. This leaves us with three methods for dealing with indeterminate fractions.

1. *Division Method*.—i.e., by dividing out the common factors.
2. *Expansion Method*.—i.e., by substituting  $x + h$  for  $x$ , etc.
3. *Differentiation Method*.—i.e., by the method just indicated.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Prove that  $\int \frac{dx}{x} = \log x$ , by means of the general formula

$$\int x^n dx = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}. \quad \text{Hint. Show that}$$

$$\text{Lt}_{n \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} = \text{Lt}_{n \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^{n+1} \log x \cdot \frac{dn}{dx}}{\frac{d}{dn}} = \text{Lt}_{n \rightarrow -1} x^{n+1} \log x = \log x,$$

by differentiating the numerator and denominator separately with regard to  $n$  and substituting  $n = -1$  in the result.

(2) Show  $\text{Lt}_{\gamma \rightarrow 1} \frac{c}{\gamma - 1} \left( \frac{1}{v_2^{\gamma-1}} - \frac{1}{v_1^{\gamma-1}} \right) = c \log \frac{v_1}{v_2}$ . See (10), p. 259, (3), p. 254.

## II. The function assumes the form $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ .

Functions of this type can be converted into the preceding " $\frac{0}{0}$ " case by interchanging the numerator and denominator, but it is not difficult to show that (6) applies to both  $\frac{0}{0}$  and to  $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ ; and generally, if the ratio of the first derivatives vanishes, use the second; if the second vanishes, use the third, etc. Or, symbolically,

$$\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f_1(x)}{f_2(x)} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f_1'(x)}{f_2'(x)} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f_1''(x)}{f_2''(x)} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f_1'''(x)}{f_2'''(x)} = \dots \quad (7)$$

This is the so-called **rule of l'Hopital**.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that  $\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log x}{x-1} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^{-1}}{-x^{-2}} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 0} -x = 0$ .

(2) The  $n$ th derivative of  $x^n$  is  $n!$  and the  $n$ th derivative of  $e^x$  is  $e^x$  by Leibnitz' theorem, when  $n$  is positive. Hence show that

$$\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{x^n} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{1 \cdot 2 \dots n} = \infty.$$

## III. The function assumes the form $\infty \times 0$ .

Obviously, such a fraction can be converted into the " $\frac{0}{0}$ " form by putting the infinite expression as the denominator of the fraction; or into the  $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$  form by putting the zero factor as the denominator of the fraction as shown in the subjoined examples.

EXAMPLES.—(1) The reader has already encountered the problem: what does  $x \log x$  become when  $x = 0$ ? We are evidently dealing with the  $0 \times \infty$  case. Obviously, as in a preceding example,

$$\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 0} x \log x = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log x}{\frac{1}{x}} = 0.$$

(2) Show  $\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow b} \frac{1}{a-b} \log \frac{(a-x)b}{(b-x)a} = \frac{x}{a(a-x)}$ , as indicated on page 220.

(3) Show  $\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{-x} \log x = 0 \times \infty = 0$ .

## IV. The function assumes the form $\infty - \infty$ , or $0 - 0$ .

First reduce the expression to a single fraction and treat as above.



EXAMPLES.—(1) Show by differentiating twice, etc., that

$$\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x}{x-1} - \frac{1}{\log x} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x \log x - x + 1}{(x-1) \log x} = \text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x}{x+1} = \frac{1}{2}, \text{ etc.}$$

(2) Show that  $\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x}{\log x} - \frac{1}{\log x} = 1$ .

(3) W. Hecht, M. Conrad and O. Brückner (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 4, 273, 1889) wanted the limiting value of the following expression in their work on chemical kinetics:—

$$\text{Lt}_{n \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{n-1} \left( \log \frac{na-x}{a-x} - \log n \right). \quad \text{Ansr. } \frac{x}{a-x},$$

V. The function assumes one of the forms  $1^\infty$ ,  $\infty^0$ ,  $0^0$ .

Take logarithms and the expression reduces to one of the preceding types.

EXAMPLES.—(1)  $\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 0} x^x = 0^0$ . Take logs and noting that  $y = x^x$ ,  $\log y = x \log x$ . But we have just found that  $x \log x = 0$  when  $x = 0$ ;  $\therefore \log y = 0$  when  $x = 0$ ;  $\therefore y = 1$ . Hence,  $\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 0} x^x = 1$ .

(2) Show  $\text{Lt}_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + mx)^{1/x} = 1^\infty = e^m$ . Here  $\log y = x^{-1} \log (1 + mx)$ . But when  $x = 0$ ,  $\log y = \frac{0}{0}$ ; by the differential method, we find that  $\log(1 + mx)x^{-1}$  becomes  $m$  when  $x = 0$ ; hence  $\log y = m$ ; or  $y = e^m$ , when  $x = 0$ .

## § 104. The Calculus of Finite Differences.

The calculus of finite differences deals with the changes which take place in the value of a function when the independent variable suffers a finite change. Thus if  $x$  is increased a finite quantity  $h$ , the function  $x^2$  increases to  $(x + h)^2$ , and there is an increment of  $(x + h)^2 - x^2 = 2xh + h^2$  in the given function. The independent variable of the differential calculus is only supposed to suffer infinitesimally small changes. I shall show in the next two sections some useful results which have been obtained in this subject; meanwhile let us look at the notation we shall employ.

In the series

$$1^3, 2^3, 3^3, 4^3, 5^3, \dots,$$

subtract the first term from the second, the second from the third, the third from the fourth, and so on. The result is a new series,

$$7, 19, 37, 61, 91, \dots$$

called the **first order of differences**. By treating this new series in a similar way, we get a third series,

$$12, 18, 24, 30, \dots,$$

called the **second order of differences**. This may be repeated

as long as we please, unless the series terminates or the differences become very irregular.

The different orders of differences are usually arranged in the form of a "table of differences". To construct such a table, we can begin with the first member of series of corresponding values of the two variables. Let the different values of one variable, say,  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$  correspond with  $y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots$ . The differences between the dependent variables are denoted by the symbol " $\Delta$ ," with a superscript to denote the order of difference, and a subscript to show the relation between it and the independent variable. Thus, in general symbols:—

Argument.	Function.	Orders of Differences.			
		First.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.
$x_a$	$y_a$	$\Delta^1_a$	$\Delta^2_a$	$\Delta^3_a$	$\Delta^4_a$
$x_{a+h}$	$y_{a+h}$	$\Delta^1_{a+h}$	$\Delta^2_{a+h}$	$\Delta^3_{a+h}$	
$x_{a+2h}$	$y_{a+2h}$	$\Delta^1_{a+2h}$	$\Delta^2_{a+2h}$		
$x_{a+3h}$	$y_{a+3h}$	$\Delta^1_{a+3h}$			
$x_{a+4h}$	$y_{a+4h}$				

If we apply this to the function  $y = x^3$  we get the table of differences:

$x$	$y$	$\Delta^1$	$\Delta^2$	$\Delta^3$	$\Delta^4$
1	(1) <sub>0</sub>	(7) <sub>0</sub>	(12) <sub>0</sub>	(6) <sub>0</sub>	
2	(8) <sub>1</sub>	(19) <sub>1</sub>	(18) <sub>1</sub>	(6) <sub>1</sub>	0
3	(27) <sub>2</sub>	(37) <sub>2</sub>	(24) <sub>2</sub>		
4	(64) <sub>3</sub>	(61) <sub>3</sub>			
5	(125) <sub>4</sub>				

Such a table will often furnish a good idea of any sudden change which might occur in the relative values of the variables with a view to expressing the experimental results in terms of an empirical or interpolation formula. It is not uncommon to find faulty measurements, and other mistakes in observation or calculation, shown up in an unmistakable manner by the appearance of a marked irregularity in a member of one of the difference columns. It is, of course, quite possible that these irregularities are due to something of the nature of a discontinuity in the phenomenon under consideration.

### § 105. Interpolation.

In one method of fixing the order of a chemical reaction it is necessary to find the time which is required for the transformation of equal fractional parts of a given substance in two separate systems. Let  $x$  denote the concentration of the reacting substance at the time  $t$ ;  $a$ , the initial concentration of the reacting substance; and suppose that the following numbers were obtained:—

System I., $a = 0.1$ .		System II., $a = 0.0625$ .	
$t$ .	$x$ .	$t$ .	$x$ .
1.0	0.0581	1	0.04816
1.5	0.0490	3	0.03564
2.5	0.0382	7	0.02688
4.0	0.0300	17	0.01748

In one system,  $\frac{3}{10}$ ths of the substance were transformed in four minutes; it is required to find in what time  $\frac{3}{10}$ ths of the reacting substance were transformed in the second system.

Expressed in more general terms, given a definite number of observations, to calculate any required intermediate values. This kind of problem frequently confronts the practical worker, particularly in dealing with isolated and discontinuous observations, and measurements in which time is one of the variables. The process of computation of the numerical values of two variables *intermediate* between those actually determined by observation and measurement, is called **interpolation**. When we attempt to obtain values lying *beyond* the limits of those actually measured, the process is called **extrapolation**. The term “interpolation” is also applied to both processes. See page 92.

It is apparent that the correct formula connecting the two variables must be known before exact interpolation can be performed. If the relation between the mass,  $m$ , and volume,  $v$ , of a substance be represented by the expression  $m = \frac{1}{2}v$ , we can readily calculate the value of  $m$  for any value of  $v$  we might desire. Moreover, the method of testing a supposed formula is to compare the experimental values with those furnished by interpolation. Interpolation, therefore, is based on the assumption that when a law is known

with fair exactness, we can, by the principle of continuity, anticipate the results of any future measurements.

When the form of the function connecting the two variables is known, the determination of the value of one variable corresponding with any assigned value of the other is simple arithmetic. When the form of the function is quite unknown, and the definite values set out in the table alone are known, the problem loses its determinate character, and we must then resort to the methods now to be described.

### *I. Interpolation by proportional parts.*

If the differences between the succeeding pairs of values are small and regular, any intermediate value can be calculated by simple proportion on the assumption that the change in the value of the function is proportional to that of the variable. This is obviously nothing more than the rule of proportional parts illustrated on page 289, by the interpolation of  $\log(n + h)$  when  $\log n$  and  $\log(n + 1)$  are known. The rule is in very common use. For example, *weighing by the method of vibrations* is an example of interpolation. Let  $x$  denote the zero point of the balance, let  $w_0$  be the true weight of the body in question. This is to be measured by finding the weight required to bring the index of the balance to zero point. Let  $x_1$  be the position of rest when a weight  $w_1$  is added and  $x_2$  the position of rest when a weight  $w_2$  is added. Assuming that for small deflections of the beam the difference in the two positions of rest will be proportional to the difference of the weights, the weight,  $w_0$ , necessary to bring the pointer to zero will be given by the simple proportion :

$$(w_0 - w_1) : (x_0 - x_1) = (w_2 - w_1) : (x_2 - x_1).$$

When the intervals between the two terms are large, or the differences between the various members of the series decrease rapidly, simple proportion cannot be used with confidence. To take away any arbitrary choice in the determination of the intermediate values, it is commonly assumed that the function can be expressed by a limited series of powers of one of the variables. Thus we have the interpolation formulæ of Newton, Bessel, Stirling, Lagrange, and Gauss.

### *II. Newton's interpolation formula.*

Let us now return to fundamentals. If  $y_x$  denotes a function of  $x$ , say

$$y_x = f(x),$$

then, if  $x$  be increased by  $h$ ,

$$y_{x+h} = f(x+h),$$

and consequently,

$$\text{Increment } y_x = y_{x+h} - y_x = f(x+h) - f(x) = \Delta^1_x. \quad (1)$$

Similarly, the increment

$$\Delta^1 y_x = \Delta^1_{x+h} - \Delta^1_x = \Delta^1(\Delta^1_x) = \Delta^2_x, \quad (2)$$

where  $\Delta^1_x$  is the first difference in the value of  $y_x$ , when  $x$  is increased to  $x+h$ ;  $\Delta^2_x$  is the first difference of the first difference of  $y_x$ , that is, the second difference of  $y_x$  when  $x$  is increased to  $x+h$ . It will now be obvious that  $\Delta^1$  is the symbol of an operation—the taking of the increment in the value of  $f(x)$  when the variable is increased to  $x+h$ . For the sake of brevity, we generally write  $\Delta_x$  for  $\Delta y_x$ . From (1) and (2), it follows that

$$y_{x+h} = y_x + \Delta^1 y_x; \quad (3)$$

$$y_{x+2h} = y_{x+h} + \Delta^1 y_{x+h} = y_x + \Delta^1 y_x + \Delta^1(y_x + \Delta^1 y_x);$$

$$\therefore y_{x+2h} = y_x + 2\Delta^1 y_x + \Delta^2 y_x. \quad (4)$$

Similarly,

$$y_{x+3h} = y_x + 3\Delta^1 y_x + 3\Delta^2 y_x + \Delta^3 y_x. \quad (5)$$

We see that the numerical coefficients of the successive orders of differences follow the binomial law of page 36. This must also be true of  $y_{x+nh}$  if  $n$  is a positive integer, consequently,

$$y_{x+nh} = y_x + n\Delta y_x + \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)\Delta^2 y_x + \dots$$

This is **Newton's interpolation formula** (Newton's *Principia*, 3, lem. 5, 1687) employed in finding or interpolating one or more terms when  $n$  particular values of the function are known. Let us write  $y_0$  in place of  $y_x$  for the first term, then

$$y_{nh} = y_0 + n\Delta^1_0 + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}\Delta^2_0 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3!}\Delta^3_0 + \dots \quad (6)$$

continued until the differences become negligibly small or irregular. If we write  $nh = x$ ,  $n = x/h$ , and (6) assumes the form

$$y_x = y_0 + \frac{x}{h} \cdot \frac{\Delta^1_0}{1} + \frac{x(x-h)}{h^2} \cdot \frac{\Delta^2_0}{2!} + \frac{x(x-h)(x-2h)}{h^3} \cdot \frac{\Delta^3_0}{3!} + \dots \quad (7)$$

where  $h$  denotes the increment in the successive values of the independent variable; and  $x$  is the total increment of the interpolated term. The application is best illustrated by example.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $y_0 = 2,844$ ;  $y_1 = 2,705$ ;  $y_2 = 2,501$ ;  $y_3 = 2,236$ , find  $y_{\frac{1}{2}}$  (Inst. of Actuaries Exam., 1889). First set up the difference table, paying particular attention to the algebraic signs of the differences.

$x$	$y$	$\Delta^1$	$\Delta^2$	$\Delta^3$
0	2,844			
1	2,705	$(-139)_0$	$(-65)_0$	$(+4)_0$
2	2,501	$(-204)_1$	$(-61)_1$	
3	2,236	$(-265)_2$		

Now substitute these values in (6) or (7),  $h = 1$ , and if  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ , we have  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ .

$$\therefore y_{\frac{1}{2}} = y_0 + \frac{1}{2}\Delta^1_0 + \frac{\frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{2} - 1)}{2!}\Delta^2_0 + \frac{\frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{2} - 1)(\frac{1}{2} - 2)}{3!}\Delta^3_0.$$

$$\therefore y_{\frac{1}{2}} = 2844 - \frac{1}{2} \times 139 + \frac{1}{2!} \times 65 + \frac{1}{3!} \times 4 = 2821.592.$$

(2) The amount of £1 in 50 years at  $2\frac{1}{2}\%$  = 3.4871090; at  $3\%$  = 4.8889061; at  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  = 5.5849264; at  $4\%$  = 7.1066845 (Inst. Actuaries Exam., 1888). Find the amount at  $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ . Here  $\Delta^1_0 = 0.9467971$ ;  $\Delta^2_0 = 0.2542282$ ;  $\Delta^3_0 = 0.0665146$ ;  $y_0 = 3.4871090$ ; let  $y_0, y_1, y_2, y_3$  and  $y_4$  denote the respective values of  $y$  here given;  $h = 2$ . Required  $y_{\frac{3}{4}}$ .

$$\therefore y_{\frac{3}{4}} = y_0 + \frac{3}{4}\Delta^1_0 + \frac{5 \cdot 8}{8}\Delta^2_0 + \frac{5 \cdot 8 \cdot 1}{48}\Delta^3_0.$$

$$\therefore y = 3.4871090 + 2.3669928 + 0.4766685 + 0.0207858 = 6.3015561.$$

The correct value is 6.30094. The discrepancy is due to the fact that the order of difference above the third ought not to be neglected. But we can only get  $n - 1$  orders of differences from  $n$  consecutive terms and equidistant terms values of a function. If more terms had been given we could have got a more exact result.

(3) Given  $y_0 = 89,685$ ;  $y_1 = 88,994$ ;  $y_2 = 88,294$ ;  $y_3 = 87,585$ , find  $y_4$  (Inst. Actuaries Exam., 1902). Here  $\Delta^1_0 = -691$ ;  $\Delta^2_0 = -9$ ; the succeeding differences  $\Delta^3, \Delta^4, \dots$  are all zero. Here (6) becomes

$$y_4 = y_0 + 9\Delta^1_0 + 36\Delta^2_0 = 89,685 - 6,219 - 324 = 83,142.$$

(4) Given  $\log 4.22 = 0.6258125$ ;  $\log 4.23 = 0.6268404$ ;  $\log 4.24 = 0.6278659$ ;  $\log 4.25 = 0.6288889$ , find  $\log 4.21684$ . Here  $y_0, y_1, y_2, y_3$  denotes the given quantities, we want  $y_x = y_{-0.00316}$ ;  $h = 0.01$ . Hence, from (7),

$$\begin{aligned} y_{-0.00316} &= y_0 - \frac{0.00816}{0.01} \cdot \frac{\Delta^1_0}{1} - \frac{0.00816(-0.00816 - 1)}{0.0001} \cdot \frac{\Delta^2_0}{2!}; \\ &= 0.6258125 - 0.0008248 - 0.0000005 = 0.6249872. \end{aligned}$$

(5) What is the cube root of 60.25, given the cube root of 60 = 3.914868; 61 = 3.936497; 62 = 3.957891; 63 = 3.979057; 64 = 4.000000? Here,  $\Delta^1_0 = +0.021629$ ;  $\Delta^2_0 = -0.000285$ . Substitute  $x = \frac{1}{4}$ ;  $h = 1$ .

$$\therefore y = y_0 + \frac{1}{4}\Delta^1_0 - \frac{1}{2!}\Delta^2_0 = 3.914868 + 0.005407 + 0.000022 = 3.920297.$$

The number obtained by simple proportion is 3.920295. The correct number is a little greater than 3.920297.

### III. Lagrange's interpolation formula.

We have assumed that the  $n$  given values are all equidistant. This need not be. A new problem is now presented: Given  $n$  consecutive values of a function, which are not equidistant from one another, to find any other intermediate value.

Let  $y$  become  $y_a, y_b, y_c, \dots, y_n$  when  $x$  becomes  $a, b, c, \dots, n$ . Lagrange has shown that the value of  $y$  corresponding with any given value of  $x$ , can be determined from the formula

$$y_x = \frac{(x-b)(x-c)\dots(x-n)}{(a-b)(a-c)\dots(a-n)}y_a + \frac{(x-a)(x-c)\dots(x-n)}{(b-a)(b-c)\dots(b-n)}y_b + \dots, \quad (8)$$

where each term is of the  $n$ th degree in  $x$ . This is generally known as **Lagrange's interpolation formula**, although it is said to be really due to Euler.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Find the probability that a person aged 53 will live a year having given the probability that a person aged 50 will live a year = 0.98428; for a person aged 51 = 0.98335; 54, 0.98008; 55, 0.97877 (Inst. Actuaries Exam., 1890). Here,  $y_a = 0.98428$ ,  $a = 0$ ;  $y_b = 0.98335$ ,  $b = 1$ ;  $y_c = 0.98008$ ,  $c = 4$ ;  $y_d = 0.97877$ ,  $d = 5$ ;  $\therefore x = 3$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x-b)(x-c)(x-d) &= (3-1)(3-4)(3-5) = +4; \\ (x-a)(x-c)(x-d) &= (3-0)(3-4)(3-5) = +6; \\ (x-a)(x-b)(x-d) &= (3-0)(3-1)(3-5) = -12; \\ (x-a)(x-b)(x-c) &= (3-0)(3-1)(3-4) = -6; \\ (a-b)(a-c)(a-d) &= (0-1)(0-4)(0-5) = -20; \\ (b-a)(b-c)(b-d) &= (1-0)(1-4)(1-5) = +12; \\ (c-a)(c-b)(c-d) &= (4-0)(4-1)(4-5) = -12; \\ (d-a)(d-b)(d-c) &= (5-0)(5-1)(5-4) = +20. \end{aligned}$$

$$y_x = -\frac{4}{20}y_a + \frac{6}{12}y_b + \frac{12}{12}y_c - \frac{6}{20}y_d = -\frac{0.98428}{5} + \frac{0.98335}{2} + \frac{0.98008}{1} - \frac{3 \times 0.97877}{10};$$

$$y_x = -0.196856 + 0.491675 + 0.98008 - 0.29361 = 0.98127.$$

(2) Given  $\log 280 = 2.4472$ ;  $\log 281 = 2.4487$ ;  $\log 283 = 2.4518$ ;  $\log 286 = 2.4564$ , find  $\log 282$  by Lagrange's formula (Inst. Actuaries Exam., 1890).  $x = 2$ ,  $a = 0$ ,  $b = 1$ ,  $c = 3$ ,  $d = 6$ . Hence show that

$$y_x = -\frac{3}{8}y_a + \frac{1}{4}y_b + \frac{1}{8}y_c - \frac{1}{16}y_d = 2.4502.$$

(3) Find by Lagrange's formula  $\log x = 2\frac{1}{2}$ , given  $\log 200 = 2.30103$ ;  $\log 210 = 2.32222$ ;  $\log 220 = 2.34242$ ;  $\log 230 = 2.36173$  (Inst. Actuaries Exam., 1891). Here  $a = 0$ ,  $b = 1$ ,  $c = 2$ ,  $d = 3$ . Substitute in the interpolation formula and we get

$$\begin{aligned} y_x &= \frac{(x-1)(x-2)(x-3)}{(0-1)(0-2)(0-3)}y_a + \frac{(x-0)(x-2)(x-3)}{(1-0)(1-2)(1-3)}y_b + \dots; \\ \therefore y_x &= -\frac{x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6}{6}y_a + \frac{x^3 - 5x^2 + 6x}{2}y_b + \dots; \end{aligned}$$

the student must fill in the other terms himself. Collect together the different terms in  $x$ ,  $x^2$ ,  $x^3$ , etc., and

$$2.33333 = 2.30103 + 0.02171x - 0.00055x^2 + 0.00001x^3.$$

When this equation is solved by the approximation methods described in a later chapter, we get  $x = 215.462$  (nearly).

(4) Ammonium sulphate has the electrical conductivities: 552, 1010, 1779 units at the respective concentrations: 0.778, 1.601, 3.377 grm. molecules per litre. Calculate the conductivity of a solution containing one grm. molecule of the salt per litre. Ansr. 684.5 units nearly. Hint. By Lagrange's formula, (8),

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{(1-1.601)(1-3.377)}{(0.778-1.601)(0.778-3.377)} 552 + \frac{(1-0.778)(1-3.377)}{(1.601-0.778)(1.601-3.377)} 1010 + \dots \\ &= \frac{0.601 \cdot 2.377}{0.823 \cdot 2.599} 552 + \frac{0.222 \cdot 2.377}{0.823 \cdot 1.776} 1010 - \frac{0.222 \cdot 0.601}{2.599 \cdot 1.776} 1779. \end{aligned}$$

Simple proportion gives 680 units. But we have only selected three observations; if we used all the known data in working out the conductivity there would be a wider difference between the results furnished by proportion and by Lagrange's formula. The above has been selected to illustrate the use of the formula.

(5) From certain measurements it is found that if  $x = 618$ ,  $y = 3.927$ ;  $x = 588$ ,  $y = 3.1416$ ;  $x = 452$ ,  $y = 1.5708$ . Apply Lagrange's formula, in order to find the best value to represent  $y$  when  $x = 617$ . Ansr. 3.898.

If the function is periodic, Gauss' interpolation formula may be used. This has a close formal analogy with Lagrange's.<sup>1</sup>

$$y_x = \frac{\sin \frac{1}{2}(x-b) \cdot \sin \frac{1}{2}(x-c) \dots \sin \frac{1}{2}(x-n)}{\sin \frac{1}{2}(a-b) \cdot \sin \frac{1}{2}(a-c) \dots \sin \frac{1}{2}(a-n)} y_a + \dots \quad (9)$$

#### IV. Interpolation by central differences.

A comparison of the difference table, page 309, with Newton's formula will show that the interpolated term  $y_x$  is built up by taking the algebraic sum of certain proportions of each of the terms employed. The greatest proportions are taken from those terms nearest the interpolated term. Consequently we should expect more accurate results when the interpolated term occupies a central position among the terms employed rather than if it were nearer the beginning or end of the given series of terms.

Let us take the series  $y_0, y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4$  so that the term,  $y_x$ , to be interpolated lies nearest to the central term  $y_2$ . Hence, with our former notation, Newton's expression assumes the form

---

<sup>1</sup> For the theoretical bases of these reference interpolation formulæ the reader must consult Boole's work, *A Treatise on the Calculus of Finite Differences*, London, 38, 1880.



$$y_{2+x} = y_0 + (2+x)\Delta^1 y_0 + \frac{(2+x)(1+x)}{2!}\Delta^2 y_0 + \dots \quad (10)$$

It will be found convenient to replace the suffixes of  $y_0, y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4$ , respectively by  $y_{-2}, y_{-1}, y_0, y_1, y_2$ . The table of differences then assumes the form

$x_{-2}$	$y_{-2}$	$\Delta^1_{-2}$	$\Delta^2_{-2}$	$\Delta^3_{-2}$	
$x_{-1}$	$y_{-1}$	$\Delta^1_{-1}$			
$x_0$	$y_0$	$\Delta^1_0$	$\Delta^2_{-1}$	$\Delta^3_{-1}$	$\Delta^4_{-2}$
$x_1$	$y_1$	$\Delta^1_1$	$\Delta^2_0$	$\Delta^3_0$	
$x_2$	$y_2$				

Equation (10) must now be written

$$y_x = y_{-2} + (2+x)\Delta^1_{-2} + \frac{(2+x)(1+x)}{2!}\Delta^2_{-2} + \dots \quad (11)$$

Let us now try to convert this formula into one in which only the central differences, blackened in the above table, appear. It will be good practice in the manipulation of difference columns. First assume that

$$\Delta^1 = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta^1_{-1} + \Delta^1_0); \quad \Delta^3 = \frac{1}{2}(\Delta^3_{-2} + \Delta^3_{-1}). \quad (12)$$

$$\therefore \Delta^3_{-2} = 2\Delta^3 - \Delta^3_{-1}. \quad (13)$$

Again from the table of differences

$$\Delta^4_{-2} = \Delta^3_{-1} - \Delta^3_{-2}; \quad \therefore \Delta^3_{-2} = \Delta^3_{-1} - \Delta^4_{-2}. \quad (14)$$

By adding together (13) and (14),

$$\Delta^3_{-2} = \Delta^3 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta^4_{-2}. \quad (15)$$

In a similar manner, from the table, and (15), we have

$$\Delta^2_{-2} = \Delta^2_{-1} - \Delta^3_{-2} = \Delta^2_{-1} - \Delta^3 + \frac{1}{2}\Delta^4_{-2}. \quad (16)$$

And also from the first of equations (12), and the fact that

$$\Delta^2_{-1} = \Delta^1_0 - \Delta^1_{-1}; \quad \Delta^1_{-1} = \Delta^1 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta^2_{-1}, \text{ it follows that}$$

$$\Delta^1_{-2} = \Delta^1_{-1} - \Delta^2_{-2} = (\Delta^1 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta^2_{-1}) - (\Delta^2_{-1} - \Delta^3 + \frac{1}{2}\Delta^4_{-2});$$

$$\therefore \Delta^1_{-2} = \Delta^1 - \frac{3}{2}\Delta^2_{-1} + \Delta^3 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta^4_{-2}. \quad (17)$$

Still further, from the table of differences, (16), and the fact that  $\Delta^1_{-1} = y_0 - y_{-1}$ , we get

$$y_{-2} = y_{-1} - \Delta^1_{-2} = (y_0 - \Delta^1_{-1}) - \Delta^1_{-2};$$

$$= (y_0 - \Delta^1_{-1}) - (\Delta^1 - \frac{3}{2}\Delta^2_{-1} + \Delta^3 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta^4_{-2}).$$

But  $\Delta^1_{-1}$  is equal to  $\Delta^1 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta^2_{-1}$ , as just shown, therefore,

$$y_{-2} = y_0 - 2\Delta^1 + 2\Delta^2_{-1} - \Delta^3 + \frac{1}{2}\Delta^4_{-2}. \quad (18)$$

Now substitute these values of  $y_{-2}, \Delta^1_{-2}, \Delta^2_{-2}, \Delta^3_{-2}$ , from (15), (16), (17), and (18), in (11); rearrange terms and we get a new formula (19).

$$y = y_0 + \frac{x}{1} \cdot \frac{\Delta^1_0 + \Delta^1_{-1}}{2} + \frac{x^2}{2!} \Delta^2_{-1} + \frac{x(x^2 - 1)}{3!} \cdot \frac{\Delta^3_{-1} + \Delta^3_{-2}}{2} + \dots \quad (19)$$

which is called **Stirling's interpolation formula** (J. Stirling, *Methodus Differentialis*, London, 1730), when we are given a set of corresponding values of  $x$  and  $y$ , we can calculate the value  $y$  corresponding to any assigned value  $x$ , lying between  $x_0$  and  $x_1$ . Stirling's interpolation formula supposes that the intervals  $x_1 - x_0$ ,  $x_0 - x_{-1}$ , ... are unity. If, however,  $h$  denotes the equal increments in the values  $x_1 - x_0$ ,  $x_0 - x_{-1}$ , ..., Stirling's formula becomes

$$y = y_0 + \frac{x}{h} \cdot \frac{\Delta^1_0 + \Delta^1_{-1}}{2} + \frac{x^2}{2! h^2} \Delta^2_{-1} + \frac{(x+h)x(x-h)}{3! h^3} \cdot \frac{\Delta^3_{-1} + \Delta^3_{-2}}{2} + \frac{(x+h)x^2(x-h)}{4! h^4} \Delta^4_{-2} + \frac{(x+2h)(x+h)x(x-h)(x-2h)}{5! h^5} \cdot \frac{\Delta^5_{-2} + \Delta^5_{-3}}{2} + \dots, \quad (20)$$

where  $y$  is written in place of  $y_x$ .

**EXAMPLE.**—The 8 % annuities on lives aged 21, 25, 29, 33, and 37 are respectively 21·857, 21·025, 20·132, 19·145, and 18·057. Find the annuity for age 30. Set up the table of differences,  $h = 4$ .

$x$	$y$	$\Delta^1$	$\Delta^2$	$\Delta^3$	$\Delta^4$
21	(21·857) <sub>-2</sub>	(-0·832) <sub>-2</sub>			
25	(21·025) <sub>-1</sub>	(-0·893) <sub>-1</sub>	(-0·061) <sub>-2</sub>		
29	(20·132) <sub>0</sub>	(-0·987) <sub>0</sub>	(-0·094) <sub>-1</sub>	(-0·033) <sub>-2</sub>	
33	(19·145) <sub>1</sub>	(-1·088) <sub>1</sub>	(-0·101) <sub>0</sub>	(-0·007) <sub>-1</sub>	(+0·026) <sub>-2</sub>
37	(18·057) <sub>2</sub>				

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore y &= 20·132 - \frac{0·940}{4} - \frac{0·094}{2! \times 4^2} + \frac{15 \times 0·02}{3! \times 4^3} - \frac{15 \times 0·026}{4! \times 4^4} \\ &= 20·132 - 0·235 - 0·003 + 0·0008 - 0·0001 = 19·895. \end{aligned}$$

By Newton's formula, we get 19·895.

The central difference formula of Stirling thus furnishes the same result as the ordinary difference formula of Newton. We get different results when the higher orders of differences are neglected. For instance, if we neglect differences of the second order in formulæ (7) and (20), Stirling's formula would furnish more accurate results, because, in virtue of the substitution  $\Delta^1_{-1} = \Delta^1 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta^2_{-1}$ , we have really retained a portion of the second order of differences. If, therefore, we take the difference formula as far as the first, third, or some odd order of differences, we get the same results with the central and the ordinary difference formulæ. One more term is required to get an odd order of differences when central differences are employed. Thus, five terms are required to get

third order differences in the one case, and four terms in the other. For practical purposes I do not see that any advantage is to be gained by the use of central differences.

### V. Graphic interpolation.

Intermediate values may be obtained from the graphic curve by measuring the ordinate corresponding to a given abscissa or *vice versa*.

In measuring high temperatures by means of the Le Chatelier-

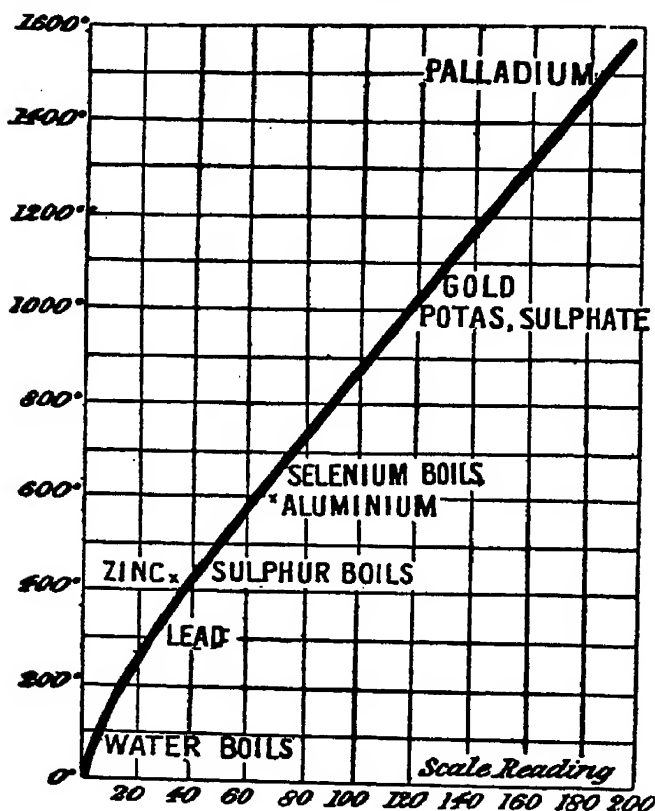


FIG. 130.—Calibration Chart °C.

corresponding to any scale reading, gives the desired temperature. For example, the scale reading "160" corresponds with the temperature 1300°.

Austin pyrometer, the deflection of the galvanometer index on a millimetre scale is caused by the electromotive force generated by the heating of a thermo-couple (Pt - Pt with 10 % Rd) in circuit with the galvanometer. The displacement of the index is nearly proportional to the temperature. The scale is calibrated by heating the junction to well-defined temperatures and plotting the temperatures as ordinates, the scale readings as abscissæ. The resulting graph or "calibration curve" is shown in Fig. 130. The ordinate to the curve corre-

## § 106. Differential Coefficients from Numerical Observations.

It is sometimes necessary to calculate the value of  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  from the relation  $y = f(x)$ . Three methods are available:—

### I. Differentiation of a known function.

If corresponding values of two variables can be represented in the form of a mathematical equation, the differential coefficient of the one variable with respect to the other can be easily obtained.

In illustration, A. Horstmann (*Liebig's Ann. Ergbd.*, 8, 112, 1872), wished to compare the experimental values of the heats of vaporization,  $Q$ , of ammonium chloride with those calculated from the expression:  $Q = T(dp/dT)dv$ , which had been deduced from the principles of thermodynamics. He found that the observed vapour pressure,  $p$ , at different temperatures,  $\theta$ , could be represented well enough by Biot's formula:  $\log_{10} p = a + b\alpha^{\theta - 258.5}$ . Hence, the value of  $dp/d\theta$ , or  $dp/dT$ , for the vapour pressure at any particular temperature could be obtained by differentiating this formula and substituting the observed values of  $p$  and  $t$  in the result. It is assumed, of course, that the numerical values of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $\alpha$  are known. Following Horstmann  $a = 5.15790$ ,  $b = -3.34598$ , and  $\log_{10} \alpha = 0.9979266 - 1$ . Suppose it be required to find the value of  $dp/d\theta$  at  $300^\circ$ . When  $\theta = 300$ ,  $\theta - 258.5 = 41.5$ ; and  $\alpha^{41.5} = 0.819$ , because  $\log_{10} \alpha^{41.5} = 41.5 \log_{10} \alpha = 41.5 \times -0.0020734 = -0.086046$ ; consequently,  $0.086046 = -41.5 \log_{10} \alpha = \log_{10} \alpha^{-41.5} = \log_{10} 1.221$ . Hence,  $\alpha^{-41.5} = 1.221$ ;  $\therefore \alpha^{41.5} = 0.819$ ; and  $b\alpha^{41.5} = -3.34598 \times 0.8192 = -2.74036$ . Hence,  $\log_{10} p = 5.1579 - 2.7403$ ; or,  $\log_{10} p = 2.4175 = \log_{10} 261.5$ ; or,  $p = 261.5$ . By differentiation of  $\log_{10} p = a + b\alpha^{\theta - 258.5}$

$$\frac{dp}{d\theta} = pb\alpha^{41.5} \log_{10} \alpha = 261.5 \times -2.74035 \times -0.0020734 = 1.5.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Assuming that the pressure,  $p$ , of steam at  $\theta^\circ$  C. in lbs. per square foot is given by the law  $\theta = 29.77p^{\frac{1}{4}} - 37.6$ , show that when  $p = 290$ ,  $dp/d\theta = 15.67$ . Hint.  $d\theta/dp = -\frac{1}{4}(29.77)p^{-\frac{3}{4}}$ ;  $\therefore dp/d\theta = 0.168p^{\frac{1}{4}}$ ;  $\therefore dp/d\theta = 0.168 \times 290^{\frac{1}{4}}$  lbs. per square foot per  $^\circ$  C.

(2) The volume,  $v_s$ , of a cubic foot of saturated steam at  $T^\circ$  abs. is given by the formula  $L = T(v_s + v_w)dp/dT$ , where  $v_w$  the volume of one pound of water which may be taken as negligibly small in comparison with  $v_s$ ;  $L$  is the latent heat of one pound of steam in mechanical units, i.e., 740,710 ft. lbs. Given also the formula of the preceding example, show that when  $\theta = 127^\circ$  C.,  $p = \{(127 + 37.6)/29.77\}^4$ ;  $\therefore \log p = 3.71365$ ;  $\therefore dp/d\theta$ , or, what is the same thing,  $dp/dT = 0.168 \times 935 = 157$  lbs. per square foot per degree absolute. Hence,  $740710 = 157 \times v_s \times 400$ ;  $\therefore v_s = 11.8$ .

## II. Graphic interpolation.

In the above-quoted investigation, Horstmann sought the value of  $dp/dT$  for the dissociation pressure of aqueous vapour from crystalline disodium hydrogen phosphate at different temperatures. Here the form of  $p = f(T)$  was not known, and it became necessary to deal directly with the numerical observations, or with

the curve expressing these measurements. In the latter case, the tangent to the "smoothed" or "faired" curve obtained by plotting corresponding values of  $p$  and  $T$  on squared paper will sometimes allow the required differential coefficient to be obtained. Suppose, for example, we seek the numerical value of  $dp/d\theta$  at  $150^\circ$  when it is known that when

$$\begin{aligned} p &= 8.698, \quad 9.966, \quad 11.380 \text{ lbs. per sq. ft.;} \\ \theta &= 145, \quad 150, \quad 155^\circ \text{ C.} \end{aligned}$$

These numbers are plotted on squared paper as in Fig. 131. To

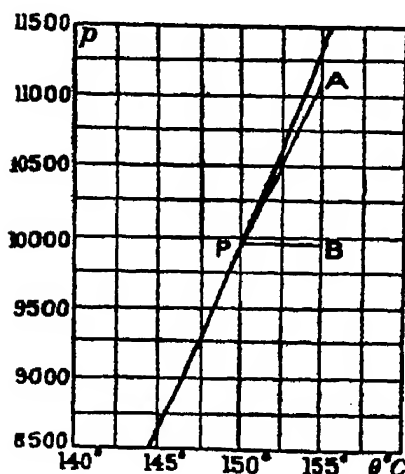


FIG. 131.

find  $dp/d\theta$  at the point  $P$  corresponding with  $150^\circ$ , and 9.966 lbs. per square foot, first draw the tangent  $PA$ ; from  $P$  draw  $PB$  parallel with the  $\theta$ -axis. If now the pressure were to increase throughout  $5^\circ$  from  $150^\circ$  to  $155^\circ$  at the same rate as it is increasing at  $P$ , the increase in pressure for  $5^\circ$  rise of temperature would be equal to the length  $BA$ , or to 1300 lbs. per square foot. Consequently, the increase of pressure per degree rise of temperature is equal to  $1300 \div 5 = 260$  lbs. per sq. ft. Hence  $dp/dT = 260$ .

The graphic differentiation of an experimental curve is avoided if very accurate results are wanted, because the errors of the experimental curve are greatly exaggerated when drawing tangents. If the measurements are good better results can be obtained, because the curve does not then want smoothing. Graphic interpolation was accurate enough for Horstmann's work. See also O. W. Richardson, J. Nicol, and T. Parnell, *Phil. Mag.* [6], 8, 1, 1904, for another illustration.

We now seek a more exact method for finding the differential coefficient of one variable, say  $y$ , with respect to another, say  $x$ , from a set of corresponding values of  $x$  and  $y$  obtained by actual measurement.

### III. From the difference formulæ.

Let us now return to Stirling's interpolation formula. Differentiate (19), page 317, with respect to  $x$ , and if we take the difference between  $y_0$  and  $y_x$  to be infinitely small, we must put  $x = 0$  in the result. In this way, we find that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{h} \left( \frac{\Delta^1_0 + \Delta^1_{-1}}{2} - \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{\Delta^3_{-1} + \Delta^3_{-2}}{2} + \frac{1}{30} \cdot \frac{\Delta^5_{-2} + \Delta^5_{-3}}{2} - \dots \right). \quad (1)$$

This series may be written in the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{h} \left( \frac{\Delta^1_0 + \Delta^1_{-1}}{2} - \frac{1^2}{3!} \cdot \frac{\Delta^3_{-1} + \Delta^3_{-2}}{2} + \frac{1^2 \cdot 2^2}{5!} \cdot \frac{\Delta^5_{-2} + \Delta^5_{-3}}{2} + \dots \right). \quad (2)$$

To illustrate the use of formula (2), let the first two columns of the following table represent a set of measurements obtained in the laboratory. It is required to find the value of  $dy/dx$  corresponding to  $x = 5.2$ . First set up the table of central differences.

$x$ .	$y$ .	$\Delta^1$ .	$\Delta^2$ .	$\Delta^3$ .	$\Delta^4$ .	$\Delta^5$ .
4.9	(134.290) <sub>-3</sub>	(14.123) <sub>-3</sub>				
5.0	(148.413) <sub>-2</sub>	(15.609) <sub>-2</sub>	(1.486) <sub>-3</sub>	(0.155) <sub>-3</sub>		
5.1	(164.022) <sub>-1</sub>	(17.250) <sub>-1</sub>	(1.641) <sub>-2</sub>	(0.174) <sub>-2</sub>	(0.019) <sub>-2</sub>	(-0.004) <sub>-2</sub>
5.2	(181.272) <sub>0</sub>	(19.065) <sub>0</sub>	(1.815) <sub>-1</sub>	(0.189) <sub>-1</sub>	(0.015) <sub>-1</sub>	(+0.009) <sub>-1</sub>
5.3	(200.337) <sub>1</sub>	(21.069) <sub>1</sub>	(2.004) <sub>0</sub>	(0.218) <sub>0</sub>	(0.024) <sub>-1</sub>	
5.4	(221.406) <sub>2</sub>	(23.286) <sub>2</sub>	(2.217) <sub>1</sub>			
5.5	(244.692) <sub>3</sub>					

Make the proper substitutions in (2). In the case of 5.2 only the block figures in the above table are required. Thus,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{0.1} \left( \frac{17.250 + 19.065}{2} - \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{0.174 + 0.189}{2} + \frac{1}{30} \cdot \frac{0.009}{2} - \frac{0.004}{2} \right).$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = 181.273.$$

The student may now show that by differentiating Stirling's formula twice, and putting  $x = 0$  in the result, we obtain the second differential coefficient

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{1}{h^2} \left( \Delta^2_{-1} - \frac{1}{12} \Delta^4_{-2} + \frac{1}{90} \Delta^6_{-3} - \dots \right), \quad (3)$$

which may also be written

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{1}{h^2} \left( \frac{2}{2!} \Delta^2_{-1} - \frac{2}{4!} \Delta^4_{-2} + \frac{2 \cdot 2^2}{6!} \Delta^6_{-3} - \frac{2 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3^2}{8!} \Delta^8_{-4} + \dots \right). \quad (4)$$

The difference columns should not be carried further than is consistent with the accuracy of the data, otherwise the higher approximations will be *less* accurate than the first. Do not carry the differences further than the point at which they begin to exhibit marked irregularities. The  $\Delta^5$  differences in the above table, for instance, are "out of bounds". The first two terms generally suffice for all practical requirements.

EXAMPLES.—(1) From Horstmann's observations on the dissociation pressure,  $p$ , of the ammonio-chlorides of silver at different temperatures,  $t$ :

$\theta = 8,$	$12,$	$16, \dots$	$^{\circ}\text{C}.$
$p = 43.2,$	$52.0,$	$65.8, \dots$	$\text{cm. Hg.}$

show that at  $12^{\circ}$ ,  $dp/d\theta = 2.76$ .

(2) Show that  $ds/d\theta = -4.7 \times 10^{-6}$ , at  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ , from the following data:—

$\theta = 1,$	$0.5,$	$0,$	$-0.5,$	$-1.0, \dots;$
$10^6 \times s = 1288.8,$	$1290.7,$	$1293.1,$	$1295.4,$	$1297.8, \dots$

(3) Find the value of  $d^2y/dx^2$  for  $y=5.2$  from the above table. Ansr.  $181.4$ .

(4) The variation in the pressure of saturated steam,  $p$ , with temperature  $\theta$  has been found to be as follows:—

$\theta = 90,$	$95,$	$100,$	$105,$	$110,$	$115,$	$120, \dots;$
$p = 1463,$	$1765,$	$2116,$	$2524,$	$2994,$	$3534,$	$4152, \dots$

Hence show that at  $105^{\circ}$   $dp/d\theta = 87.58$ ,  $d^2p/d\theta^2 = 2.48$ . Hint.  $dy/dx = \frac{1}{2}\{\frac{1}{2}(408 + 470) - \frac{1}{12}(5 + 8)\} = \frac{1}{2}(437.917) = 87.583$ .

### § 107. How to Represent a Set of Observations by Means of a Formula.

After a set of measurements of two independent variables has been made in the laboratory, it is necessary to find if there is any simple relation between them, in other words, to find if a general expression of the one variable can be obtained in terms of the other so as to abbreviate in one simple formula the whole set of observations, as well as intermediate values not actually measured.

The most satisfactory method of finding a formula to express the relation between the two variables in any set of measurements, is to deduce a mathematical expression in terms of variables and constants, from known principles or laws, and then determine the value of the constants from the experimental results themselves. Such expressions are said to be **theoretical formulæ** as distinct from **empirical formulæ**, which have no well-defined relation with known principles or laws.

The terms “formula” and “function” are by no means synonymous. The function is the relation or law involved in the process. The relation *may* be represented in a formula by symbols which stand for numbers. The formula is not the function, it is only its dress. The fit may or may not be a good one. This must be borne in mind when the formal relations of the symbols are made to represent some physical process or concrete thing.

It is, of course, impossible to determine the correct form of a function from the experimental data alone. An infinite number of formulæ might satisfy the numerical data, in the same sense that an infinite number of curves might be drawn through a series

of points. For instance, over thirty empirical formulæ have been proposed to express the unknown relation between the pressure and temperature of saturated steam.

As a matter of fact, empirical formulæ frequently originate from a lucky guess. Good guessing is a fine art. A hint as to the most plausible form of the function is sometimes obtained by plotting the experimental results. It is useful to remember that if the curve increases or decreases regularly, the equation is probably algebraic; if it alternately increases and decreases, the curve is probably expressed by some trigonometrical function.

If the curve is a straight line, the equation will be of the form,  $y = mx + b$ . If not, try  $y = ax^n$ , or  $y = ax/(1 + bx)$ . If the rate of increase (or decrease) of the function is proportional to itself we have the compound interest law. In other words, if  $dy/dx$  varies proportionally with  $y$ ,  $y = be^{-ax}$  or  $be^{ax}$ . If  $dy/dx$  varies proportionally with  $x/y$ , try  $y = bx^a$ . If  $dy/dx$  varies as  $x$ , try  $y = a + bx^2$ . Other general formulæ may be tried when the above prove unsatisfactory, thus,

$$y = \frac{a + x}{b - x}; y = 10^{a + bx}; y = a + b \log x; y = a + bc^x, \text{ etc.}$$

Otherwise we may fall back upon Maclaurin's expansion in ascending powers of  $x$ , the constants being positive, negative or zero. This series is particularly useful when the terms converge rapidly.

When the results exhibit a periodicity, as in the ebb and flow of tides; annual variations of temperature and pressure of the atmosphere; cyclic variations in magnetic declination, etc., we refer the results to a trigonometrical series as indicated in the chapter on Fourier's series.

Empirical formulæ, however closely they agree with facts, do not pretend to represent the true relation between the variables under consideration. They do little more than follow, more or less closely, the course of the graphic curve representing the relation between the variables within a more or less restricted range. Thus, Regnault employed three interpolation formulæ for the vapour pressure of water between  $-32^\circ \text{ F.}$  and  $230^\circ \text{ F.}$ <sup>1</sup> For example, from  $-32^\circ \text{ F.}$  to  $0^\circ \text{ F.}$ , he used  $p = a + ba^\theta$ , from  $0^\circ$  to  $100^\circ \text{ F.}$ ,

---

<sup>1</sup> Rankine was afterwards lucky enough to find that  $\log p = a - \beta\theta^{-1} - \gamma\theta^{-2}$ , represented Regnault's results for the vapour pressure of water throughout the whole range  $-32^\circ \text{ F.}$  to  $230^\circ \text{ F.}$



$\log p = a + b\alpha^\theta + c\beta^\theta$ ; from  $100^\circ$  to  $230^\circ$  F.,  $\log p = a + b\alpha^\theta - c\beta^\theta$ . Kopp required four formulæ to represent his measurements of the thermal expansion of water between  $0^\circ$  and  $100^\circ$  C. Each of Kopp's formulæ was only applicable within the limited range of  $25^\circ$  C.

If all attempts to deduce or guess a satisfactory formula are unsuccessful, the results are simply tabulated, or preferably plotted on squared paper, because then "it is the thing itself that is before the mind instead of a numerical symbol of the thing".

### § 108. To Evaluate the Constants in Empirical or Theoretical Formulæ.

Before a formula containing constants can be adapted to any *particular* process, the numerical values of the constants must be accurately known. For instance, the volume,  $v$ , to which unit volume of *any* gas expands when heated to  $\theta^\circ$ , may be represented by

$$v = 1 + a\theta,$$

where  $a$  is a constant. The law embodied in this equation can only be applied to a particular gas when  $a$  assumes *the* numerical value characteristic of that gas. If we are dealing with hydrogen,  $a = 0.00366$ ; if carbon dioxide,  $a = 0.00371$ ; and if sulphur dioxide  $a = 0.00385$ .

Again, if we want to apply the law of definite proportions, we must know exactly what the definite proportions are before it can be decided whether any particular combination is comprised under the law. In other words, we must not only know the general law, but also particular numbers appropriate to particular elements. In mathematical language this means that before a function can be used practically, we must know:

- (i) The form of the function;
- (ii) The numerical values of the constants.

The determination of the form of the function has been discussed in the preceding section, the evaluation of the constants remains to be considered.

Is it legitimate to deduce the numerical values of the constants from the experiments themselves? The answer is that the numerical data are determined from experiments purposely made by different methods under different conditions. When all independently furnish the same result it is fair to assume that the

experimental numbers includes the values of the constants under discussion.<sup>1</sup>

In some determinations of the volume,  $v$ , of carbon dioxide dissolved in one volume of water at different temperatures,  $\theta$ , the following pairs of values were obtained :—

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \theta = & 0, & 5, & 10, & 15; \\ v = & 1.80, & 1.45, & 1.18, & 1.00. \end{array}$$

As Herschel has remarked, in all cases of “direct unimpeded action,” we may expect the two quantities to vary in a simple proportion, so as to obey the linear equation,

$$y = a + bx; \text{ we have, } v = a + b\theta, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

which, be it observed, is obtained from Maclaurin’s series by the rejection of all but the first two terms.

It is required to find from these observations the values of the constants,  $a$  and  $b$ , which will represent the experimental data in the best possible manner. The above results can be written,

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) } 1.80 = a, \\ \text{(ii) } 1.45 = a + 5b, \\ \text{(iii) } 1.18 = a + 10b, \\ \text{(iv) } 1.00 = a + 15b, \end{array} \right\} . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

which is called a set of **observation equations**. We infer, from

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{(i) and (ii) } a = 1.80, b = -0.07, \\ \text{(ii) and (iii) } a = 1.62, b = -0.054, \\ \text{(iii) and (iv) } a = 1.54, b = -0.036, \text{ etc.} \end{array}$$

The want of agreement between the values of the constants obtained from different sets of equations is due to errors of observation, and, of course, to the fact that the particular form of the function chosen does not fit the experimental results. It nearly always occurs when the attempt is made to calculate the constants in this manner.

The numerical values of the constants deduced from any arbitrary set of observation equations can only be absolutely correct when the measurements are perfectly accurate. The problem here presented is to pick the best representative values of the constants from the experimental numbers. Several methods are available.

---

<sup>1</sup> J. F. W. Herschel’s *A Preliminary Discourse on the Study of Natural Philosophy*, London, 1831, is worth reading in this connexion.

### I. Solving the equations by algebraic methods.

Pick out as many observation equations as there are unknowns and solve for  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  by ordinary algebraic methods. The different values of the unknown corresponding with the different sets of observation arbitrarily selected are thus ignored.

EXAMPLE.—Corresponding values of the variables  $x$  and  $y$  are known, say,  $x_1, y_1$ ;  $x_2, y_2$ ;  $x_3, y_3$ ; ... Calculate the constants  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , in the interpolation formula

$$y = a \cdot 10^{\frac{bx}{1+ax}}.$$

When  $x_1 = 0, y_1 = a$ . Thus  $b$  and  $c$  remain to be determined. Take logarithms of the two equations in  $x_2, y_2$  and  $x_3, y_3$  and show that,

$$b = \frac{\log_{10} \frac{y_3}{a} \left( \frac{1}{x_2} - \frac{1}{x_3} \right) \log_{10} \frac{y_2}{a}}{\log_{10} \frac{y_3}{a} - \frac{1}{x_3} \log_{10} \frac{y_2}{a}}; \quad c = \frac{\frac{1}{x_2} \log_{10} \frac{y_2}{a} - \frac{1}{x_3} \log_{10} \frac{y_3}{a}}{\log_{10} \frac{y_3}{a} - \log_{10} \frac{y_2}{a}}.$$

This method may be used with any of the above formulæ when an exact determination of the constants is of no particular interest, or when the errors of observation are relatively small. V. H. Regnault used it in his celebrated “Mémoire sur les forces élastiques de la vapeur d'eau” (*Ann. Chim. Phys.*, [3], 11, 273, 1844) to evaluate the constants mentioned in the formula, page 323; so did G. C. Schmidt (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 7, 433, 1891); and A. Horstmann (*Liebig's Ann. Ergbd.*, 8, 112, 1872).

### II. Method of Least Squares.

The constants must satisfy the following criterion: The differences between the observed and the calculated results must be the smallest possible with small positive and negative differences. One of the best ways of fixing the numerical values of the constants in any formula is to use what is known as the method of least squares. This rule proceeds from the assumption that the most probable values of the constants are those for which the sum of the squares of the differences between the observed and the calculated results are the smallest possible. We employ the rule for computing the maximum or minimum values of a function.

In this work we usually pass from the special to the general. Here we can reverse this procedure and take the general case first. Let the observed magnitude  $y$  depend on  $x$  in such a way that

$$y = a + bx. \quad (3)$$

It is required to determine the most probable values of  $a$  and  $b$ . For

perfect accuracy, we should have the following observation equations:

$$a + bx_1 - y_1 = 0; a + bx_2 - y_2 = 0; \dots a + bx_n - y_n = 0.$$

In practice this is unattainable. Let  $v_1, v_2, \dots v_n$  denote the actual deviations so that

$$a + bx_1 - y_1 = v_1; a + bx_2 - y_2 = v_2; \dots a + bx_n - y_n = v_n.$$

It is required to determine the constants so that,

$$\Sigma(v^2) = v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_n^2 \text{ is a minimum.}$$

With observations affected with errors the smallest value of  $v^2$  will generally differ from zero; and the sum of the squares will therefore always be a positive number. We must therefore choose such values of  $a$  and  $b$  as will make

$$\Sigma_{n=1}^n (a + bx_n - y_n)^2$$

the smallest possible. This condition is fulfilled, page 156, by equating the partial derivatives of  $\Sigma(v^2)$  with respect to  $a$  and  $b$  to zero. In this way, we obtain,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial a} \Sigma(a + bx - y)^2 = 0; \text{ hence, } \Sigma(a + bx - y) = 0;$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial b} \Sigma(a + bx - y)^2 = 0; \text{ hence, } \Sigma x(a + bx - y) = 0.$$

If there are  $n$  observation equations, there are  $n$   $a$ 's and  $\Sigma(a) = na$ , therefore,

$$na + b\Sigma(x) - \Sigma(y) = 0; a\Sigma(x) + b\Sigma(x^2) - \Sigma(xy) = 0.$$

Now solve these two simultaneous equations for  $a$  and  $b$ ,

$$a = \frac{\Sigma(x) \cdot \Sigma(xy) - \Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(y)}{[\Sigma(x)]^2 - n\Sigma(x^2)}; b = \frac{\Sigma(x)\Sigma(y) - n\Sigma(xy)}{[\Sigma(x)]^2 - n\Sigma(x^2)}, \quad (4)$$

which determines the values of the constants.

Returning to the special case at the commencement of this section, to find the best representative value of the constants  $a$  and  $b$  in formula (1). Previous to substitution in (4), it is best to arrange the data according to the following scheme:—

$\theta.$	$v.$	$\theta^2.$	$\theta v.$
0	1.80	0	0
5	1.45	25	7.25
10	1.18	100	11.80
15	1.00	225	15.00
$\Sigma(\theta) = 30$	$\Sigma(v) = 5.43$	$\Sigma(\theta^2) = 350$	$\Sigma(\theta v) = 34.05$



where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are constants to be determined. The resulting formulæ for  $b$  and  $c$  (omitting  $a$ ), analogous to (4), are,

$$b = \frac{\Sigma(x^4) \cdot \Sigma(xy) - \Sigma(x^3) \cdot \Sigma(x^2y)}{\Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(x^4) - [\Sigma(x^3)]^2}; \quad c = \frac{\Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(x^2y) - \Sigma(x^3) \cdot \Sigma(xy)}{\Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(x^4) - [\Sigma(x^3)]^2}. \quad (6)$$

These two formulæ have been deduced by a similar method to that employed in the preceding case.  $a$  is a constant to be determined separately by arranging the experiment so that when  $x = 0$ ,  $a = y_0$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) The following series of measurements of the temperature,  $\theta$ , at different depths,  $x$ , in an artesian well, were made at Grenelle (France):—

$x =$	28,	66,	173,	248,	298,	400,	505,	548;
$\theta =$	11.71,	12.90,	16.40,	20.00,	22.20,	23.75,	26.45,	27.70.

The mean temperature at the surface, where  $x = 0$ , was  $10.6^\circ$ . Hence show that at a depth of  $x$  metres,  $\theta = 10.6 + 0.042096x - 0.000020558x^2$ .

(2) If, when  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 1$  and when

$x =$	8.97,	20.56,	36.10,	49.96,	62.38,	83.73;
$y =$	1.0078,	1.0184,	1.0317,	1.0443,	1.0563,	1.0759.

Hence show that  $y = 1 + 0.00084x + 0.0000009x^2$ .

Thomson (*Wied. Ann.*, 44, 553, 1891) employed the general formulæ for  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , when still another correction term is included, namely,

$$y = ax + bx^2 + cx^3. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

Illustrations will be found in the original paper.

If three variables are to be investigated, we may use the general formula

$$z = ax + by. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

The reader may be able to prove, on the above lines, that

$$a = \frac{\Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(xz) - \Sigma(xy) \cdot \Sigma(yz)}{\Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(y^2) - [\Sigma(xy)]^2}; \quad b = \frac{\Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(yz) - \Sigma(xy) \cdot \Sigma(xz)}{\Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(y^2) - [\Sigma(xy)]^2}. \quad (9)$$

M. Centnerszwer (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 26, 1, 1896) referred his observations on the partial pressure of oxygen during the oxidation of phosphorus in the presence of different gases and vapours to the empirical formula

$$p_x = p_0 - a \log(1 + bx); \quad \text{or to } p_0 - p_x = a \log(1 + bx),$$

where  $p_0$  denotes the pressure of pure oxygen,  $p_x$  the partial pressure of oxygen mixed with  $x$  % of foreign gas or vapour. Show

with Centnerszwer, that if  $y = p_0 - p_x$

$$a = \frac{\Sigma(xy) \cdot \Sigma(x^4) - \Sigma(x^2y) \cdot \Sigma(x^3)}{\Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(x^4) - [\Sigma(x^3)]^2}; b = \frac{\Sigma(xy) \cdot \Sigma(x^3) - \Sigma(x^2y) \cdot \Sigma(x^2)}{\Sigma(x^2) \cdot \Sigma(x^4) - [\Sigma(x^3)]^2}, \quad (10)$$

EXAMPLE.—Show, with Centnerszwer, that  $a = 184$ ,  $b = 118$  for chlorbenzene when it is known that when

$p_x = 561,$	$549,$	$536,$	$523,$	$509,$	$485;$
$x = 0,$	$0.054,$	$0.108,$	$0.215,$	$0.430,$	$0.858.$

The method of least squares *assumes* that the observations are all equally reliable. The reader will notice that we have assumed that one variable is quite free from error, and very often we can do so with safety, especially when the one variable can be measured with a much greater degree of accuracy than the other. We shall see later on what to do when this is not the case.

### III. Graphic methods.

Returning to the solubility determinations at the beginning of this section, prick points corresponding to pairs of values of  $v$  and  $\theta$  on squared paper. The points lie approximately on a straight line. Stretch a black thread so as to get *the* straight line which lies most evenly among the points. Two points lying on the black thread are  $v = 1.0$ ,  $\theta = 14.5$ , and  $v = 1.7$ ,  $\theta = 1.5$ .

$$\therefore a + 14.5b = 1; a + 1.5b = 1.7.$$

By subtraction,  $b = -0.54$ ,  $\therefore a = 1.78$ . It is here assumed that the curve which goes most evenly among the points represents the correct law, see page 148. But the number of observations is, perhaps, too small to show the method to advantage. Try these:

$p = 2,$	$4,$	$6,$	$8,$	$10,$	$20,$	$25,$	$30,$	$35,$	$40,$
$s = 1.02,$	$1.03,$	$1.06,$	$1.07,$	$1.09,$	$1.18,$	$1.23,$	$1.29,$	$1.34,$	$1.40,$

where  $s$  denotes the density of aqueous solutions containing  $p\%$  of calcium chloride at  $15^\circ\text{C}$ . The selection of the best "black thread" line is, in general, more uncertain the greater the magnitude of the errors of observation affecting the measurements. The values deduced for the constants will differ slightly with different workers or even with the same worker at different times. With care, and accurately ruled paper, the results are sufficiently exact for most practical requirements.

When the “best” curve has to be drawn freehand, the results are still more uncertain. For example, the amount of “active” oxygen,  $y$ , contained in a solution of hydrogen dioxide in dilute sulphuric acid was found, after the lapse of  $t$  days, to be:

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccccc} t = & 6, & 9, & 10, & 14, & 18, & 27, & 34, & 38, & 41, & 54, & 87, \\ y = & 3.4, & 3.1, & 3.1, & 2.6, & 2.2, & 1.3, & 0.9, & 0.7, & 0.6, & 0.4, & 0.2, \end{array}$$

where  $y = 3.9$  when  $t = 0$ . We leave these measurements with the reader as an exercise.

In J. Perry's *Practical Mathematics*, London, 1899, a trial plotting on “logarithmic paper” is recommended in certain cases. On *squared paper*, the distances between the horizontal and vertical lines are in fractions of a metre or of a foot. On *logarithmic paper* (Fig. 132), the distances between the lines, like the divisions on the slide rule, are proportional to the logarithms of the numbers. If, therefore, the experimental numbers follow a law like  $\log_{10}x + a\log_{10}y = \text{constant}$ , the function can be plotted as easily as on squared paper. If the resulting graph is a straight line, we may be sure that we are dealing with some such law as  $xy^a = \text{constant}$ ; or,  $(x + a)(y + b)^a = \text{constant}$ .

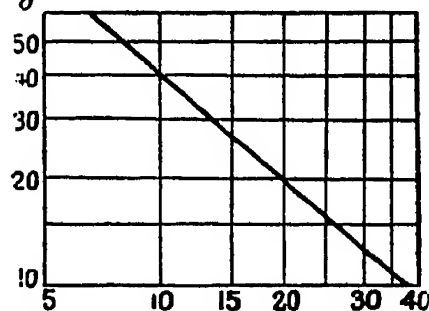


FIG. 132.—Log. Paper.

EXAMPLE.—The pressure,  $p$ , of saturated steam in pounds per square inch when the volume is  $v$  cubic feet per pound is

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} p = & 10, & 20, & 30, & 40, & 50, & 60, \\ v = & 37.80, & 19.72, & 13.48, & 10.29, & 8.34, & 6.62. \end{array}$$

Hence, by plotting corresponding values of  $p$  and  $v$  on logarithmic paper, we get the straight line:

$\log_{10}p + \gamma\log_{10}v = \log_{10}b$ ; hence,  $pv^{1.065} = 382$ , since  $\log_{10}b = 2.5811$ ,  $\therefore b = 382$  and  $\gamma = 1.065$ . The graph is shown on log paper in Fig. 132, and on ordinary squared paper in Fig. 134.

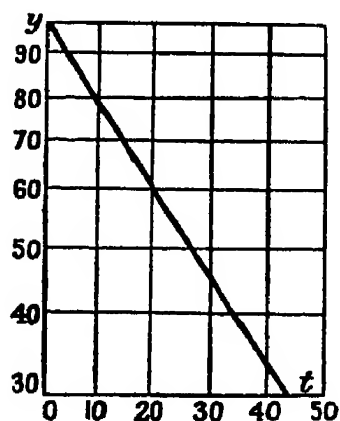


FIG. 133.—Semi-log. Paper.

A *semi-logarithmic paper* (Fig. 133) may be made with distances between say the horizontal columns in fractions of a metre, while the distances between the vertical columns are proportional to the logarithms of the numbers. Functions obeying the compound interest law will plot, on such paper, as a



straight line. One advantage of logarithmic paper is that the skill required for drawing an accurate free-hand curve is not required. The stretched black thread will be found sufficient. With semi-logarithmic paper, either  $x + \log_{10} y = \text{constant}$ ; or,  $y + \log_{10} x = \text{constant}$  will give a straight line.

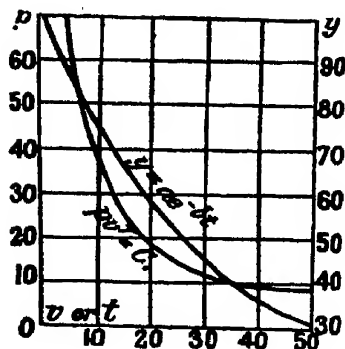


FIG. 134.

According to C. Runge and Paschen's law, if the logarithms of the atomic weights are plotted as ordinates with the distances between the brightest spectral lines in the magnetic field as abscissæ, chemically allied elements lie on the same straight line. This, for example, is the case with magnesium, calcium, strontium, and barium. Radium, too, lies on the same line, hence C. Runge and J. Precht (*Ber. deut. phys. Ges.*, 313, 1903) infer the atomic weight of radium to be 257.8. Obviously we can plot atomic weights and the other data directly on the logarithmic paper. Another example will be found in W. N. Hartley and E. P. Hedley's study (*Journ. Chem. Soc.*, 91, 1010, 1907), of the absorption spectra solutions of certain organic compounds where the oscillation frequencies were plotted against the logarithms of the thicknesses of the solutions.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Plot on semi-logarithmic paper Harcourt and Elson's numbers (*l.c.*):

$t = 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 27, 31, 35, 44,$

$y = 94.8, 87.9, 81.3, 74.9, 68.7, 64.0, 49.3, 44.0, 39.1, 31.6,$

for the amount of substance  $y$  remaining in a reacting system after the elapse of an interval of time  $t$ . Hence determine values for the constants  $a$  and  $b$  in

$$y = ae^{-bt}; \text{ i.e., in } \log_{10} y + bt = \log_{10} a,$$

a straight line on "semi-log" paper. The graph is shown in Fig. 133 on "semi-log" paper and in Fig. 134 on ordinary paper.

(2) What "law" can you find in J. Perry's numbers (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 23, 472, 1875),

$\theta = 58, 86, 148, 166, 188, 202, 210,$   
 $C = 0, .004, .018, .029, .051, .073, .090,$

for the electrical conductivity  $C$  of glass at a temperature of  $\theta^\circ \text{F.}$  ?

(3) Evaluate the constant  $a$  in S. Arrhenius' formula,  $\eta = a^x$ , for the viscosity  $\eta$  of an aqueous solution of sodium benzoate of concentration  $x$ , given

$\eta = 1.6498, 1.2780, 1.1303, 1.0623,$   
 $x = 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}.$

Several other methods have been proposed. Gauss' method, for example, will be taken up later on. See also Hopkinson,

*Messenger of Mathematics*, 2, 65, 1872; or S. Lupton's *Notes on Observations*, London, 104, 1898.

### § 109. Substitutes for Integration.

It may not always be convenient, or even possible, to integrate the differential equation; in that case a less exact method of verifying the theory embodied in the equation must be adopted. For the sake of illustration, take the equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a - x); \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

used to represent the velocity of a chemical reaction,  $x$  denotes the amount of substance transformed at the time  $t$ ; and  $a$  denotes the initial concentration. Let  $dt$  denote unit interval of time, and let  $\Delta x$  denote the difference between the initial and final quantity of substance transformed in unit interval of time, then  $\frac{1}{2}\Delta x$  denotes the average amount of substance transformed during the same interval of time. Hence, for the first interval, we write

$$\Delta x = k_1(a - \frac{1}{2}\Delta x),$$

which, by algebraic transformation, becomes

$$\Delta x = \frac{k_1 a}{1 + \frac{1}{2}k_1}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

For the next interval,

$$\Delta x = k_1(a - x - \frac{1}{2}\Delta x), \text{ etc.}$$

These expressions may be used in place of the integral of (1), namely

$$k = \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{a}{a - x}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

for the verification of (1).

With equations of the second order

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k_2(a - x)^2, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

we get, in the same way,

$$\Delta x = \frac{k_2 a^2}{1 + k_2 a}; \quad \Delta x = \frac{k_2(a - x)^2}{1 + k_2(a - x)}, \text{ etc.}, \quad . \quad (5)$$

by putting, as before,  $\Delta x$  in place of  $dx$ ,  $dt = 1$ ,  $x = \frac{1}{2}\Delta x$ , and remembering that the second power of  $\Delta x$  is negligibly small. The regular integral of (4) is

$$k_2 = \frac{1}{at} \cdot \frac{x}{a - x}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

NUMERICAL ILLUSTRATION.—Let us suppose that  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are both equal to 0.1, and that  $a = 100$ . From (2)

$$\Delta x = \frac{0.1 \times 100}{1.05} = 9.52; \therefore a - x = 100 - 9.52 = 90.48;$$

$$\Delta x = \frac{0.1 \times 90.48}{1.05} = 8.62; \therefore a - x = 90.48 - 8.62 = 81.87.$$

Again from (5), for reactions of the second order

$$\Delta x = \frac{0.1 \times 10,000}{1 + 0.1 \times 100} = 90.99; \therefore a - x = 100 - 90.99 = 9.09;$$

$$\Delta x = \frac{(9.09)^2 \times 0.1}{1 + 0.1 \times 9.09} = 4.33; \therefore a - x = 9.09 - 4.33 = 4.76.$$

The following table shows that the results obtained by this method of approximation compare very favourably with those obtained from the regular integrals (3) and (6). There is, of course, a slight error, but that is usually within the limits of experimental error.

First Order.			Second Order.		
t.	a - x.		t.	a - x.	
	by (2).	by (3).		by (5).	by (6).
0	100	100	0	100	100
1	90.48	90.48	1	9.09	9.09
2	81.86	81.86	2	4.76	4.76
3	74.08	74.06	3	3.23	3.23
4	67.03	67.01	4	2.44	2.44
5	60.65	60.63	5	1.96	1.96
6	54.88	54.86	6	1.64	1.64
7	49.66	49.64	7	1.41	1.41
8	44.93	44.91	8	1.23	1.24

This method of integration was used by W. Federlin (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, **41**, 565, 1902) in his study of the reaction between phosphorous acid, potassium iodide, and potassium persulphate; and by R. Wegscheider (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, **41**, 52, 1902) for the saponification of the sulphonic esters.

The student should always be on the lookout for short cuts and simplifications. Thus, it may be possible to transform the integral into a simpler form before evaluating by the methods of approximation. For example, let

$$u = \int y \cdot dx$$

be the integral. In one investigation (R. A. Lehfeldt, *Phil. Mag.*, [5], **46**, 42, 1898; [6], **1**, 377, 403, 1901),  $y$  represented the concentration,  $x$  the electromotive force, and  $u$  the osmotic pressure

of a solution.  $y$  was a known function, hence,  $dy$  could be readily calculated. Integrate by parts, and we get

$$u = xy - \int x \cdot dy,$$

which can be evaluated by the planimeter, or any other means.

Again, to calculate the vapour pressure,  $p_2$ , in the expression

$$x \frac{\partial \log p_1}{\partial x} + (1 - x) \frac{\partial \log p_2}{\partial x} = 0,$$

where  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  denote the vapour pressure of two components of a mixture;  $x$  is the fractional composition of the mixture. Suppose that  $p_1$  and  $x$  are known, it is required to calculate  $p_2$ . Here also, on integration by parts,

$$\log p_2 = - \int \frac{x}{1-x} \cdot \frac{\partial \log p_1}{\partial x} dx = - \frac{x \log p_1}{1-x} + \int \frac{\log p_1}{(1-x)^2} dx.$$

The second setting is much better adapted for numerical computation.

### § 110. Approximate Integration.

We have seen that the area enclosed by a curve can be estimated by finding the value of a definite integral. This may be reversed. The numerical value of a definite integral can be determined from measurements of the area enclosed by the curve. For instance, if the integral  $\int f(x) \cdot dx$  is unknown, the value of  $\int_a^b f(x) \cdot dx$  can be found by plotting the curve  $y = f(x)$ ; erecting ordinates to the curve on the points  $x = a$  and  $x = b$ ; and then measuring the surface bounded by the  $x$ -axis, the two ordinates just drawn and the curve itself.

This area may be measured by means of the planimeter, an instrument which automatically registers the area of any plane figure when a tracer is passed round the boundary lines. A good description of these instruments by O. Henrici will be found in the *British Association's Reports*, 496, 1894.

Another way is to cut the figure out of a sheet of paper, or other uniform material. Let  $w_1$  be the weight of a known area  $a_1$  and  $w$  the weight of the piece cut out. The desired area  $x$  can then be obtained by simple proportion,

$$w_1 : a = w : x.$$

Other methods may be used for the finding the approximate value of an integral between certain limits. First plot the curve.

Divide the curve into  $n$  portions bounded by  $n + 1$  equidistant ordinates  $y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$ , whose magnitude and common distance apart is known, it is required to find an approximate expression for the area so divided, that is to say, to evaluate the integral

$$\int_0^n f(x) \cdot dx.$$

Assuming Newton's interpolation formula

$$f(x) = y_0 + x\Delta^1_0 + \frac{1}{2!}x(x-1)\Delta^2_0 + \dots, \quad (1)$$

we may write,

$$\therefore \int_0^n f(x) \cdot dx = y_0 \int_0^n dx + \Delta^1_0 \int_0^n x \cdot dx + \int_0^n \frac{\Delta^2_0}{2!} x(x-1) dx + \dots, \quad (2)$$

which is known as the **Newton-Cotes integration formula**. We may now apply this to special cases, such as calculating the value of a definite integral from a set of experimental measurements, etc.

### I. Parabolic Formulæ.

Take three ordinates. There are two intervals. Reject all terms after  $\Delta^2_0$ . Remember that  $\Delta^1_0 = y_1 - y_0$  and  $\Delta^2_0 = y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0$ . Let the common difference be unity,

$$\int_0^2 f(x) \cdot dx = 2y_0 + 2\Delta^1_0 + \frac{1}{3}\Delta^2_0 = \frac{1}{3}(y_0 + 4y_1 + y_2). \quad (3)$$

If  $h$  represents the common distance of the ordinates apart, we have the familiar result known as **Simpson's one-third rule**, thus,

$$\int_0^2 f(x) \cdot dx = \frac{1}{3}h(y_0 + 4y_1 + y_2). \quad (4)$$

A graphic representation will perhaps make the assumptions involved in this formula more apparent. Make the construction shown in Fig. 135. We

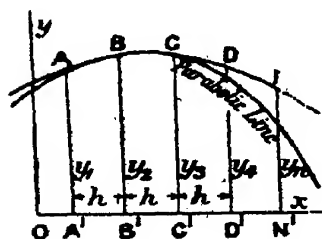


FIG. 135.

seek the area of the portion  $ANN'A'$  corresponding to the integral  $f(x) \cdot dx$  between the limits  $x = x_0$  and  $x = x_n$ , where  $f(x)$  represents the equation of the curve  $ABCDN$ . Assume that each strip is bounded on one side by a parabolic curve. The area of the

portion

$ABCC'A' = \text{Area trapezium } ACC'A' + \text{Area parabolic segment } ABCA$ ,  
From well-known mensuration formulæ (16), page 604, the area of the portion

$$\begin{aligned} ABCC'A' &= A'C' \left[ \frac{1}{2}(A'A + C'C) + \frac{2}{3} \{ B'B - \frac{1}{2}(A'A + C'C) \} \right]; \\ &= 2h \left( \frac{1}{8}A'A + \frac{2}{3}B'B + \frac{1}{8}C'C \right) = \frac{1}{3}h(A'A + 4B'B + C'C). \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Extend this discussion to include the whole figure,

$$\text{Area } ANN'A' = \frac{1}{3}h(1 + 4 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2 + 4 + 1), \quad (6)$$

where the successive coefficients of the perpendiculars  $AA'$ ,  $BB'$ , ... alone are stated;  $h$  represents the distance of the strips apart. The greater the number of equal parts into which the area is divided, the more closely will the calculated correspond with true area.

Put  $OA' = x_0$ ;  $ON = x_n$ ;  $A'N' = x_n - x_0$  and divide the area into  $n$  parts;  $h = (x_n - x_0)/n$ . Let  $y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  denote the successive ordinates erected upon  $Ox$ , then equation (6) may be written in the form,

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_n} f(x) \cdot dx = \frac{1}{3}h \left\{ (y_0 + y_n) + 4(y_1 + y_3 + \dots + y_{n-1}) + 2(y_2 + y_4 + \dots + y_{n-2}) \right\} \quad (7)$$

In practical work a great deal of trouble is avoided by making the measurements at equal intervals  $x_1 - x_0, x_2 - x_1, \dots, x_n - x_{n-1}$ . R. Wegscheider (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 41, 52, 1902) employed Simpson's rule for integrating the velocity equations for the speed of hydrolysis of sulphonic esters; and G. Bredig and F. Epstein (*Zeit. anorg. Chem.*, 42, 341, 1904) in their study of the velocity of adiabatic reactions.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Evaluate the integral  $\int x^3 \cdot dx$  between the limits 1 and 11 by the aid of formula (6), given  $h = 1$  and  $y_0, y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_8, y_9, y_{10}$  are respectively 1, 8, 27, 64, ... 1000, 1931. Compare the result with the absolutely correct value. From (6),

$$\int_1^{11} x^3 \cdot dx = \frac{1}{3}(10980) = 3660; \text{ and } \int_1^{11} x \cdot dx = \frac{1}{2}(11)^4 - \frac{1}{2}(1)^4 = 3660,$$

is the perfect result obtained by actual integration.

(2) In measuring the magnitude of an electric current by means of the hydrogen voltameter, let  $C_0, C_1, C_2, \dots$  denote the currents passing through the galvanometer at the times  $t_0, t_1, t_2, \dots$  minutes. The volume of hydrogen liberated,  $v$ , will be equal to the product of the "intensity" of the current,  $C$  ampères, the time,  $t$ , and the electrochemical equivalent of the hydrogen,  $x$ ;  $\therefore v = xCt$ . Arrange the observations so that the galvanometer is read after the elapse of equal intervals of time. Hence  $t_1 - t_0 = t_2 - t_1 = t_3 - t_2 = \dots = h$ . From (7),

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_n} C \cdot dt = \frac{1}{3}h \{ (C_0 + C_n) + 4(C_1 + C_3 + \dots + C_{n-1}) + 2(C_2 + C_4 + \dots + C_{n-2}) \}.$$

In an experiment,  $v = 0.22$  when  $t = 3$ , and

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} t = 1.0, & 1.5, & 2.0, & 2.5, & 3.0, & \dots; \\ C = 1.53, & 1.03, & 0.90, & 0.84, & 0.57, & \dots \end{array}$$

$$\therefore \int_0^3 C \cdot dt = \frac{0.5}{3} \{ (1.53 + 0.57) + 4(1.03 + 0.84) + 2 \times 0.90 \} = 1.897.$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{0.22}{1.897} = 0.1159.$$

This example also illustrates how the value of an integral can be obtained from a table of numerical measurements. The result 0.1159, is better than if we had simply proceeded by what appears, at first sight, the more correct method, namely,

$$\int_0^4 C \cdot dt = (t_1 - t_0) \frac{C_0 + C_1}{2} + (t_2 - t_1) \frac{C_1 + C_2}{2} + \dots = 1.91,$$

for then  $x = \frac{0.22}{1.91} = 0.1152$ . The correct value is 0.116 nearly.

(3) If  $\int ds = \int e^{a/x}(b-x)^{-1} dx$ , where  $b$  is the end value of  $x$ , then, in the interval  $x_2 - x_1$ , show that the integrals will assume the form

$$x_2 - x_1 = \frac{x_2 - x_1}{6} \left( \frac{\frac{a}{e^{x_1}}}{b - x_1} + 4 \frac{\frac{a}{e^{\frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2)}}}{b - \frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2)} + \frac{\frac{a}{e^{x_2}}}{b - x_2} \right),$$

between the limits  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ . Hint. Use (4);  $h = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2)$ .

If we take four ordinates and three intervals, (4) assumes the form

$$\int_0^3 f(x) \cdot dx = \frac{3}{8}h(y_0 + 3(y_1 + y_2) + y_3); \quad (8)$$

where  $h$  denotes the distance of the ordinates apart,  $y_0, y_1, \dots$  the ordinates of the successive perpendiculars, in the preceding diagram. This formula is known as **Simpson's three-eighths rule**. If we take seven ordinates and neglect certain small differences, we get

$$\int_0^6 f(x) \cdot dx = \frac{3}{16}h(y_0 + 5y_1 + y_2 + 6y_3 + y_4 + 5y_5 + y_6) \quad (9)$$

which is known as **Weddle's rule** (*Math. Journ.*, 11, 79, 1854). J. E. H. Gordon (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 25, 144, 1876; or *Phil. Trans.*, 167, i., 1, 1877) employed Weddle's rule to find the intensity of the magnetic field in the axis of a helix of wire through which an electric current was flowing. The intensity of the field was measured at seven equidistant points along the axis by means of a dynamometer, and the total force was computed from (9).

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Compare Simpson's one-third rule and the three-eighths rule when  $h = 1$ , with the result of the integration of

$$\int_{-3}^{+3} x^4 dx. \quad \text{Ans. } \frac{1}{5}\{(+3)^5 - (-3)^5\} = 97.2,$$

by actual integration; for Simpson's one-third rule,

$$\frac{1}{8}\{(+3)^4 + (-3)^4 + 4\{(+2)^4 + 0^4 + (-2)^4\} + 2(1 + 1)\} = 98.$$

The three-eighths rule gives

$$\int_{-3}^{+3} f(x) dx = \frac{3}{8}h(y_0 + 3y_1 + 3y_2 + 2y_3 + 3y_4 + 3y_5 + y_6),$$

$$\frac{1}{8}\{(+3)^4 + (-3)^4 + 3\{(+2)^4 + 1^4 + (-1)^4 + (-2)^4\} + 2 \times 0\} = 99.$$

The errors are thus as 8 : 18, or as 4 : 9. A great number of cases has been tried and it is generally agreed that *the parabolic rule with an odd number of ordinates always gives a better arithmetical result than if one more ordinate is employed*. Thus, Simpson's rule with five ordinates gives a better result than if six ordinates are used.

(2) On plotting  $f(x)$  in  $\int f(x)dx$ , it is found that the lengths of the ordinates 3 cm. apart were: 14.2, 14.9, 15.3, 15.1, 14.5, 14.1, 13.7 cm. Find the numerical value of the integral. Ansr. 263.9 sq. cm. by Simpson's one-third rule. Hint. From (7),

$$\int_0^{x_n} f(x)dx = (14.2 + 13.7) + 4(14.9 + 15.1 + 14.1) + 2(15.3 + 14.5).$$

An objection to these rules is that more weight is attached to some of the measurements than to others. *E.g.*, more weight is attached to  $y_1$ ,  $y_3$ , and  $y_5$  than to  $y_2$  and  $y_4$  in applying Weddle's rule.

## II. Trapezoidal Formulæ.

Instead of assuming each strip to be the sum of a trapezium and a parabolic segment, we may suppose that each strip is a complete trapezium. In Fig. 136, let  $AN$  be a curve whose equation is  $y = f(x)$ ;  $AA'$ ,  $BB'$ , ... perpendiculars drawn from the  $x$ -axis. The area of the portion  $ANN'A'$  is to be determined. Let  $OB' - OA' = OC' - OB' = \dots = h$ . It follows from known mensuration formulæ, (11), page 604,

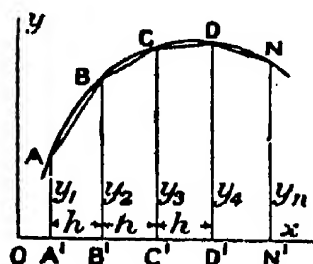


FIG. 136.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area } ANN'A' &= \frac{1}{2}h(AA' + BB') + \frac{1}{2}h(B'B + C'C) + \dots; \\ &= \frac{1}{2}h(AA' + 2BB' + 2CC' + \dots + 2MM' + NN'); \\ &= h(\frac{1}{2} + 1 + 1 + \dots + 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2}), \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where the coefficients of the successive ordinates alone are written. The result is known as the **trapezoidal rule**.

Let  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , be the values of the abscissæ corresponding with the ordinates  $y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$ , then,

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_n} f(x) \cdot dx = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 - x_0)(y_0 + y_1) + \dots + \frac{1}{2}(x_n - x_{n-1})(y_{n-1} + y_n). \quad (11)$$

If  $x_1 - x_0 = x_2 - x_1 = \dots = h$ , we get, by multiplying out,

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_n} f(x) \cdot dx = h\{\frac{1}{2}(y_0 + y_n) + y_2 + y_3 + \dots + y_{n-1}\}. \quad (12)$$

The trapezoidal rule, though more easily manipulated, is not quite so accurate as those rules based on the parabolic formula of Newton and Cotes.

The expression,

$$\text{Area } ANN'A' = h(\frac{5}{12} + \frac{1}{12} + 1 + 1 + \dots + 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{5}{12}), \quad (13)$$

or,

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_n} f(x) \cdot dx = h\{0.4(y_0 + y_n) + 1.1(y_1 + y_{n-1}) + y_2 + y_3 + \dots + y_{n-2}\}, \quad (14)$$



is said to combine the accuracy of the parabolic rule with the simplicity of the trapezoidal. It is called **Durand's rule**.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Evaluate the integral  $\int_2^{10} \frac{dx}{x}$ , by the approximation formulæ (7), (10) and (13), assuming  $h = 1$ ,  $n = 8$ . Find the absolute value of the result and show that these approximation formulæ give more accurate results when the interval  $h$  is made smaller. Ansr. (7) gives 1.611, (10) gives 1.629, (13) gives 1.616. The correct result is 1.610.

(2) Now try what the trapezoidal formula would give for the integration of Ex. (2), page 339. Ansr. 263.55. Hint. From (12)

$$3\left\{\frac{1}{2}(14.2 + 13.7) + 14.9 + 15.3 + 15.1 + 14.5 + 14.1\right\}.$$

G. Lemoine (*Ann. Chim. Phys.*, [4], 27, 289, 1872) encountered some non-integrable equations during his study of the action of heat on red phosphorus. In consequence, he adopted these methods of approximation. The resulting tables "calculated" and "observed" were very satisfactory.

Double integrals for the calculation of volumes can be evaluated by a double application of the formula. For illustrations, see C. W. Merrifield's report "On the present state of our knowledge of the application of quadratures and interpolation to actual calculation," *B. A. Reports*, 321, 1880.

### III. Mid-section Formula.

A shorter method is sometimes used. Suppose the indicator

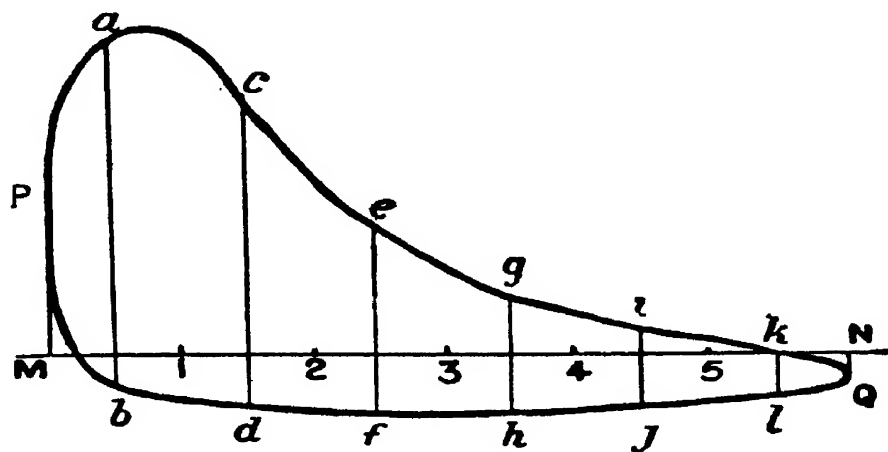


FIG. 137.

diagram (Fig. 137) to be under investigation. Drop perpendiculars  $PM$  and  $QN$  on to the "Atmospheric line"  $MN$ ; divide  $MN$  into  $n$  equal parts. In the diagram  $n = 6$ . Then measure the middle

length  $ab, cd, ef, \dots$  of each strip; add, and divide by  $n$ . Algebraically, if the length of  $ab = y_1$ ;  $cd = y_3$ ;  $ef = y_5$ ;  $\dots$

$$\text{Total area} = \frac{1}{n}(y_1 + y_3 + y_5 + \dots)MN. \quad (15)$$

### § 111. Integration by Infinite Series.

Some integrations tax, and even baffle, the resources of the most expert. It is, indeed, a common thing to find expressions which cannot be integrated by the methods at our disposal. We may then resort to the methods of the two preceding sections, or, if the integral can be expanded in the form of a converging series of ascending or descending powers of  $x$ , we can integrate each term of the expanded series separately and thus obtain any desired degree of accuracy by summing up a finite number of these terms.

If  $f(x)$  can be developed in a converging series of ascending powers of  $x$ , that is to say, if

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots \quad (1)$$

By integration, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \int f(x)dx &= \int(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots)dx; \\ &= \int a_0dx + \int a_1xdx + \int a_2x^2dx + \dots; \\ &= a_0x + \frac{1}{2}a_1x^2 + \frac{1}{3}a_2x^3 + \dots; \\ &= x(a_0 + \frac{1}{2}a_1x + \frac{1}{3}a_2x^2 + \dots) + C. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Again, if  $f(x)$  is a converging series,  $\int f(x) \cdot dx$  is also convergent. Thus, if

$$f(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots + x^{n-1} + x^n + \dots, \quad (3)$$

$$\int f(x) \cdot dx = x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \dots + \frac{1}{n}x^n + \frac{1}{n+1}x^{n+1} + \dots \quad (4)$$

Series (3) is convergent when  $x$  is less than unity, for all values of  $n$ . Series (4) is convergent when  $\frac{n}{n+1}x$ , and therefore when  $x$  is less than unity. The convergency of the two series thus depends on the same condition,  $x > 1$ . If the one is convergent, the other must be the same.

If the reader is able to develop a function in terms of Taylor's series, this method of integration will require but few words of explanation. One illustration will suffice. By division, or by Taylor's theorem,

$$(1 + x^2)^{-1} = 1 - x^2 + x^4 - x^6 + \dots$$

Consequently.

$$\int \frac{dx}{1+x^2} = \int dx - \int x^2 \cdot dx + \int x^4 \cdot dx - \int x^6 \cdot dx + \dots;$$

$\therefore \int (1+x^2)^{-1} dx = x - \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{1}{5}x^5 - \dots = \tan^{-1}x + C$ ,  
from (6), page 284.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show  $\int \frac{dx}{(1-x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = x + \frac{x^3}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{1 \cdot 3 x^5}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 5} + \dots = \sin^{-1}x + C$

(2) Show  $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{\sin x}} = 2\sqrt{\sin x} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\sin^2 x}{5} + \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 4} \cdot \frac{\sin^4 x}{9} + \dots \right) + C$ .

(3) Show  $\int e^{-x^2} dx = x - \frac{x^3}{1 \cdot 3} + \frac{x^5}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 5} - \frac{x^7}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 7} + \dots + C$ .

The two following integrals will be required later on.  $k_2$  is less than unity.

(4)  $\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{1-k^2 \sin^2 \phi}} = \frac{\pi}{2} \left\{ 1 + \left( \frac{1}{2}k \right)^2 + \left( \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 4} k^2 \right)^2 + \left( \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6} k^3 \right)^2 + \dots \right\}$ .

(5)  $\int_0^{\pi/2} (1-k^2 \sin^2 \phi)^{\frac{1}{2}} d\phi = \frac{\pi}{2} \left\{ 1 - \frac{1}{1} \left( \frac{1}{2}k \right)^2 + \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 4} k^2 \right)^2 + \dots \right\}$ .

(6) How would you propose to integrate  $\int_0^1 (1-x)^{-1} \log x \cdot dx$  in series?

Hint. Develop  $(1-x)^{-1}$  in series. Multiply through with  $\log x \cdot dx$ . Then integrate term by term. The quickest plan for the latter operation will be to first integrate  $\int x^n \log x \cdot dx$  by parts, and show that

$$\begin{aligned} \int x^n \log x \cdot dx &= \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \left( \log x - \frac{1}{n+1} \right). \\ \therefore \int_0^1 \frac{\log x}{1-x} dx &= - \left( \frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots \right) \end{aligned}$$

(7) Show that  $\frac{1}{\sin \frac{1}{2}x} = \frac{2}{x} + \frac{1}{3!} \cdot \frac{x}{2} + \frac{14}{6!} \left( \frac{x}{2} \right)^3 + \dots$

Then, remembering that  $2 \sin^2 \frac{1}{2}x = 1 - \cos x$ , (35) page 612, show that

$$\int \frac{x \cdot dx}{\sqrt{1-\cos x}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( 2x + \frac{x^3}{36} + \frac{7x^5}{14,400} + \dots \right) + C.$$

(8) Show  $\int_0^1 \sin \frac{\pi x^2}{2} dx = \left[ \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \right)^3 \frac{x^7}{7} + \frac{1}{120} \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \right)^5 \frac{x^{11}}{11} - \dots \right]_0^1$ ;  
 $= 0.5286 - 0.0875 + 0.0069 - 0.0003 + \dots = 0.446$ .

We often integrate a function in series when it is a comparatively simple matter to express the integral in a finite form. The finite integral may be unfitted for numerical computations. Thus, instead of

$$-\frac{dC}{dt} = kC(C+x); \therefore kt = \int_{C_1}^{C_n} \frac{dC}{C(C+x)} = \frac{1}{x} \left[ \log \frac{C+x}{C} \right]_{C_1}^{C_n}, \quad (5)$$

S. Arrhenius (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 1, 110, 1887) used

$$kt = \frac{1}{C_n} - \frac{1}{C_1} - \frac{x}{2} \left( \frac{1}{C_n^2} - \frac{1}{C_1^2} \right) \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

because  $x$  being small in comparison with  $C$ , (5) would not give

accurate results in numerical work, on account of the factor  $x^{-1}$ , and in (6) the higher terms are negligibly small. Again, the ordinary integral of

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k(a-x)(b-x)^2; \quad kt = \frac{1}{(a-b)^2} \left\{ \frac{(a-b)x}{b(b-x)} + \log \frac{a(b-x)}{b(a-x)} \right\},$$

from (9), page 221, does not give accurate results when  $a$  is nearly equal to  $b$ , for the factor  $(a-b)^{-2}$  then becomes very great. We can get rid of the difficulty by integration in series. Add and subtract  $(b-x)^{-3} dx$  to the denominator of

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{(a-x)(b-x)^2} &= \left[ \frac{1}{(b-x)^3} + \frac{1}{(a-x)(b-x)^2} - \frac{1}{(b-x)^3} \right] dx; \\ &= \left[ \frac{1}{(b-x)^3} - \frac{a-b}{b-x} \left\{ \frac{1}{(a-x)(b-x)^2} \right\} \right] dx; \\ &= \left[ \frac{1}{(b-x)^3} - \frac{a-b}{b-x} \left\{ \frac{1}{(b-x)^3} - \frac{a-b}{b-x} \cdot \frac{1}{(a-x)(b-x)^2} \right\} \right] dx; \\ &= \left[ \frac{1}{(b-x)^3} - \frac{a-b}{(b-x)^4} + \frac{(a-b)^2}{(b-x)^5} - \frac{(a-b)^3}{(b-x)^6} + \dots \right] dx. \end{aligned}$$

This is a geometrical series with a quotient  $(a-b)/(b-x)$  and convergent when  $(a-b) < (b-x)$ ; that is when  $a < b$ , or when  $a$  is only a little greater than  $b$ . Now integrate term by term; evaluate the constant when  $x = 0$  and  $t = 0$ ; we get

$$k = \frac{1}{t} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{(b-x)^2} - \frac{1}{b^2} \right\} - \frac{a-b}{3} \left\{ \frac{1}{(b-x)^3} - \frac{1}{b^3} \right\} + \dots \right].$$

The first term is independent of  $a-b$ , and it will be sufficiently exact for practical work.

Integrals of the form

$$\int_0^x e^{-x^2} dx; \quad \text{or,} \quad \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

are extensively employed in the solution of physical problems. *E.g.*, in the investigation of the path of a ray of light through the atmosphere (Kramp); the conduction of heat (Fourier); the secular cooling of the earth (Kelvin), etc. One solution of the important differential equation

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = \kappa \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2},$$

is represented by this integral. Errors of observation may also be represented by similar integrals. Glaisher calls the first of equations (7) the *error function complement*, and writes it, “*erfc x*”;

and the second, he calls the **error function**, and writes it, “ $\text{erf } x$ ”. J. W. L. Glaisher (*Phil. Mag.* [4], 42, 294, 421, 1871) and R. Pendlebury (*ib.*, p. 437) have given a list of integrals expressible in terms of the error function. The numerical value of any integral which can be reduced to the error function, may then be read off directly from known tables. See also J. Burgess, *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.*, 39, 257, 1898.

We have deduced the fact, on page 240, that functions of the same form, when integrated between the same limits, have the same value. Hence, we may write

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx = \int_0^\infty e^{-y^2} dy;$$

$$\therefore \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx \int_0^\infty e^{-y^2} dy = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-(x^2+y^2)} dx dy = \left[ \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx \right]^2. \quad (8)$$

Now put

$$y = vx; \text{ i.e., } dy = x dv.$$

Our integral becomes

$$\int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty x e^{-x^2(1+v^2)} dx dv. \quad (9)$$

It is a common device when integrating exponential functions to first differentiate a similar one. Thus, to integrate  $\int x e^{-ax^2} dx$ , first differentiate  $e^{-ax^2}$ , and we have  $d(e^{-ax^2}) = -2axe^{-ax^2} dx$ . From this we infer that

$$\int d(e^{-ax^2}) = -2a \int x e^{-ax^2} dx; \text{ or, } \int x e^{-ax^2} dx = -\frac{1}{2a} e^{-ax^2} + C.$$

Applying this result to the “ $dx$ ” integration of (9), we get

$$\int_0^\infty x e^{-x^2(1+v^2)} dx = \left[ -\frac{e^{-x^2(1+v^2)}}{2(1+v^2)} \right]_0^\infty = \frac{1}{2(1+v^2)};$$

since the function vanishes when  $x$  is  $\infty$ . Again, from (13), page 193, the “ $dv$ ” integration becomes

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{dv}{2(1+v^2)} = \left[ \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} v \right]_0^\infty = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

Consequently, by combining the two last results with (8) and (9), it follows that

$$\left[ \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx \right]^2 = \frac{\pi}{4}; \text{ or, } \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}. \quad (10)$$

This fact seems to have been discovered by Euler about 1730. There is another ingenious method of integration, due to Gauss,

in which the penultimate integral of equations (8) is transformed into polar coordinates and the limits are made so as to just cover one quadrant.

$$\therefore \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-(x^2+y^2)} dx dy = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r \cdot d\theta \cdot dr = \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r \cdot dr = \frac{\pi}{4}, \text{ etc.}$$

This important result enables us to solve integrals of the form  $\int e^{-x^2} x^n dx$ , for by successive reduction

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} x^n \cdot dx = \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots 2}{2^{(n-1)/2}} \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} x \cdot dx, \quad (11)$$

when  $n$  is odd; and, when  $n$  is even

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} x^n \cdot dx = \frac{(n-1)(n-3)\dots 1}{2^{n/2}} \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx. \quad (12)$$

All these integrals are of considerable importance in the kinetic theory of gases, and in the theory of probability. In the former we shall meet integrals like

$$\frac{2Nma^2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} x^4 \cdot dx; \text{ and, } \frac{2Na}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} x^3 \cdot dx. \quad (13)$$

From (12), the first one may be written  $\frac{3}{4}Nma^2$ ; the latter  $2Na/\sqrt{\pi}$ .

If the limits are finite, as, for instance, in the probability integral,

$$P = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{hx} e^{-h^2 x^2} d(hx); \therefore P = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^t e^{-t^2} dt,$$

by putting  $hx = t$ . Develop  $e^{-t^2}$  into a series by Maclaurin's theorem, as just done in Ex. (3) above. The result is that

$$P = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( t - \frac{t^3}{1.3} + \frac{t^5}{1.2.5} - \dots \right) \quad (14)$$

may be used for small values of  $t$ . For large values, integrate by parts,

$$\begin{aligned} \int e^{-t^2} dt &= -\frac{1}{2t} e^{-t^2} - \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{e^{-t^2}}{t^2} dt = -\frac{1}{2t} e^{-t^2} + \frac{1}{2^2 t^3} e^{-t^2} + \frac{3}{2^3} \int \frac{e^{-t^2}}{t^4} dt, \\ \therefore -\int e^{-t^2} dt &= e^{-t^2} \left( \frac{1}{2t} - \frac{1}{4t^3} + \frac{3}{8t^5} - \frac{15}{16t^7} + \dots \right) \end{aligned}$$

By the decomposition of the limits, (4), page 241, we get

$$\int_0^t e^{-t^2} dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-t^2} dt - \int_t^\infty e^{-t^2} dt$$

The first integral on the right-hand side =  $\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}$ . Integrating the

second between the limits  $\infty$  and  $t$

$$P = 1 - \frac{e^{-t^2}}{t\sqrt{\pi}} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1 \cdot 3}{(2t^2)^2} - \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}{(2t^2)^3} + \dots \right). \quad (15)$$

This series converges rapidly for large values of  $t$ . From this expression the value of  $P$  can be found with any desired degree of accuracy. These results are required later on.

### § 112. The Hyperbolic Functions.

I shall now explain the origin of a new class of functions, and show how they are to be used as tools in mathematical reasoning. We all know that every point on the perimeter of a circle is equidistant from the centre; and that the radius of any given circle has a constant magnitude, whatever portion of the arc be taken. In plane trigonometry, an angle is conveniently measured as a function of the arc of a circle. Thus, if  $l'$  denotes the length of an arc of a circle subtending an angle  $\theta$  at the centre,  $r'$  the radius of the circle, then

$$\theta = \frac{\text{Length of arc}}{\text{Length of radius}} = \frac{l'}{r'}.$$

This is called the circular measure of an angle and, for this reason, trigonometrical functions are sometimes called **circular functions**. This property is possessed by no plane curve other than the circle. For instance, the hyperbola, though symmetrically placed with respect to its centre, is not at all points equidistant from it. The same thing is true of the ellipse. The parabola has no centre.

If  $l$  denotes the length of the arc of any hyperbola which cuts the  $x$ -axis at a distance  $r$  from the centre, the ratio

$$u = \frac{l}{r},$$

is called an **hyperbolic function** of  $u$ , just as the ratio  $l'/r'$  is a circular function of  $\theta$ . If the reader will refer to Ex. (5), page 247, it will be found that if  $l$  denotes the length of the arc of the rectangular hyperbola

$$x^2 - y^2 = a^2, \quad (1)$$

between the ordinates having abscissæ  $a$  and  $x$ ,

$$\frac{x}{a} = \frac{1}{2}(e^u + e^{-u}).$$

But this relation is practically that developed for  $\cos x$ , on page 286,  $x$ , of course, being written for  $u$ . The ratio  $x/a$  is

defined as the **hyperbolic cosine** of  $u$ . It is usually written  $\cosh u$ , or  $\text{hycos } u$ , and pronounced “ $\cosh u$ ,” or “ $h$ -cosine  $u$ ”. Hence,

$$\cosh u = \frac{1}{2}(e^u + e^{-u}) = 1 + \frac{u^2}{2!} + \frac{u^4}{4!} + \dots \quad (2)$$

In the same way, proceeding from (1), it can be shown that

$$\frac{y}{a} = \sqrt{\frac{x^2}{a^2} - 1} = \sqrt{\frac{e^{2u} + 2 + e^{-2u}}{4} - 1} = \sqrt{\frac{e^{2u} - 2 + e^{-2u}}{4}};$$

which reduces to

$$\frac{y}{a} = \frac{1}{2}(e^u - e^{-u}),$$

a relation previously developed for  $\sin x$ . The ratio  $y/a$  is called the **hyperbolic sine** of  $u$ , written  $\sinh u$ , or  $\text{hysin } u$ . As before

$$\sinh u = \frac{1}{2}(e^u - e^{-u}) = u + \frac{u^3}{3!} + \frac{u^5}{5!} + \dots \quad (3)$$

The remaining four hyperbolic functions, analogous to the remaining four trigonometrical functions, are  $\tanh u$ ,  $\text{cosech } u$ ,  $\text{sech } u$  and  $\text{coth } u$ . Values for each of these functions may be deduced from their relations with  $\sinh u$  and  $\cosh u$ . Thus,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \tanh u &= \frac{\sinh u}{\cosh u}; \quad \text{sech } u = \frac{1}{\cosh u}; \\ \coth u &= \frac{1}{\tanh u}; \quad \text{cosech } u = \frac{1}{\sinh u} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (4)$$

Unlike the circular functions, the ratios  $x/a$ ,  $y/a$ , when referred to the hyperbola, do not represent angles. *An hyperbolic function expresses a certain relation between the coordinates of a given portion on the arc of a rectangular hyperbola.*

Let  $O$  (Fig. 138) be the centre of the hyperbola  $APB$ , described about the coordinate axes  $Ox$ ,  $Oy$ . From any point  $P(x, y)$  drop a perpendicular  $PM$  on to the  $x$ -axis. Let  $OM = x$ ,  $MP = y$ ,  $OA = a$ .

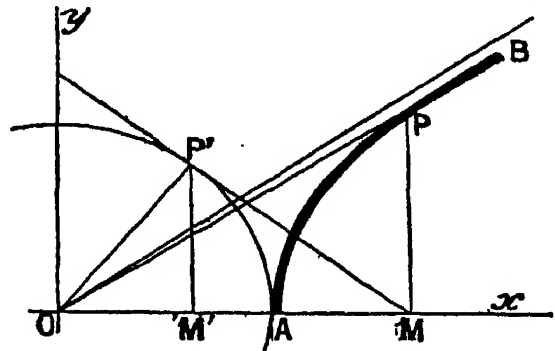


FIG. 138.

$$\therefore \cosh u = x/a; \quad \sinh u = y/a.$$

For the rectangular hyperbola,  $x^2 - y^2 = a^2$ . Consequently,

$$a^2 \cosh^2 u - a^2 \sinh^2 u = a^2; \text{ or, } \cosh^2 u - \sinh^2 u = 1.$$



The last formula thus resembles the well-known trigonometrical relation:  $\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x = 1$ . Draw  $P'M$  a tangent to the circle  $AP'$  at  $P'$ . Drop a perpendicular  $P'M'$  on to the  $x$ -axis. Let the angle  $M'OP' = \theta$ .

$$\therefore x/a = \sec \theta = \cosh u; y/a = \tan \theta = \sinh u. \quad (6)$$

*I. Conversion Formulæ.*—Corresponding with the trigonometrical formulæ there are a great number of relations among the hyperbolic functions, such as (5) above, also

$$\cosh 2x = 1 + 2 \sinh^2 x = 2 \cosh^2 x + 1. \quad (7)$$

$$\sinh x - \sinh y = 2 \cosh \frac{1}{2}(x + y) \cdot \sinh \frac{1}{2}(x - y), \quad (8)$$

and so on. These have been summarized in the Appendix, "Collection of Reference Formulæ".

*II. Graphic representation of hyperbolic functions.*—We have

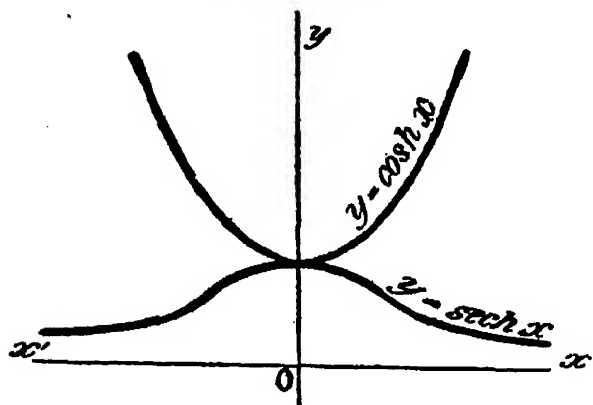


FIG. 139.—Graphs of  $\cosh x$  and  $\operatorname{sech} x$ .

seen that the trigonometrical sine, cosine, etc., are periodic functions. The hyperbolic functions are exponential, not periodic. This will be evident if the student plots the six hyperbolic functions on squared paper, using the numerical values of  $x$  and  $y$  given in Tables IV. and V. I have done this for  $y = \cosh x$ , and  $y = \operatorname{sech} x$  in Fig. 139. The

graph of  $y = \cosh x$ , is known in statics as the "catenary".

*III. Differentiation of the hyperbolic functions.*—It is easy to see that

$$\frac{d(\sinh x)}{dx} = \frac{d\{\frac{1}{2}(e^x - e^{-x})\}}{dx} = \frac{1}{2}(e^x + e^{-x}) = \cosh x.$$

We could get the same result by treating  $\sinh u$  exactly as we treated  $\sin x$  on page 48, using the reference formulæ of page 611.

For the inverse hyperbolic functions, let

$$y = \sinh^{-1} x; \therefore dx/dy = \cosh y.$$

From (5) above, it follows that

$$\cosh y = \sqrt{\sinh^2 y + 1}; \therefore \cosh y = \sqrt{x^2 + 1};$$

and, from the original function, it follows that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}.$$

IV. *Integration of the hyperbolic functions.*—A standard collection of results of the differentiation and integration of hyperbolic functions, is set forth in the following table :—

TABLE III.—STANDARD INTEGRALS.

Function.	Differential Calculus.	Integral Calculus.
$y = \sinh x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \cosh x.$	$\int \cosh x \, dx = \sinh x. \quad (9)$
$y = \cosh x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \sinh x.$	$\int \sinh x \, dx = \cosh x. \quad (10)$
$y = \tanh x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \operatorname{sech}^2 x.$	$\int \operatorname{sech}^2 x \, dx = \tanh x. \quad (11)$
$y = \coth x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\operatorname{cosech}^2 x.$	$\int \operatorname{cosech}^2 x \, dx = -\coth x. \quad (12)$
$y = \operatorname{sech} x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{\sinh x}{\cosh^2 x}.$	$\int \frac{\sinh x}{\cosh^2 x} \, dx = -\operatorname{sech} x. \quad (13)$
$y = \operatorname{cosech} x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{\cosh x}{\sinh^2 x}.$	$\int \frac{\cosh x}{\sinh^2 x} \, dx = -\operatorname{cosech} x. \quad (14)$
$y = \sinh^{-1} x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = \sinh^{-1} x. \quad (15)$
$y = \cosh^{-1} x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} = \cosh^{-1} x. \quad (16)$
$y = \tanh^{-1} x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{1 - x^2}, \quad x < 1.$	$\int \frac{dx}{1 - x^2} = \tanh^{-1} x. \quad (17)$
$y = \coth^{-1} x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x^2 - 1}, \quad x > 1.$	$\int \frac{dx}{x^2 - 1} = \coth^{-1} x. \quad (18)$
$y = \operatorname{sech}^{-1} x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{x \sqrt{1 - x^2}}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{x \sqrt{1 - x^2}} = -\operatorname{sech} x. \quad (19)$
$y = \operatorname{cosech}^{-1} x.$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{x \sqrt{x^2 + 1}}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{x \sqrt{x^2 + 1}} = -\operatorname{cosech} x. \quad (20)$

EXAMPLES.—When integrating algebraic expressions involving the square root of a quadratic, hyperbolic functions may frequently be substituted in place of the independent variable. Such equations are very common in electrotechnics. It is convenient to remember that  $x = a \tanh u$ , or  $x = \tanh u$  may be put in place of  $a^2 - x^2$ , or  $1 - x^2$ ; similarly,  $x = a \cosh u$  may be tried in place of  $\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$ ;  $x = a \sinh u$ , for  $\sqrt{x^2 + a^2}$ .

(1) Evaluate  $\int \sqrt{x^2 + a^2} \cdot dx$ . Substitute  $x = a \sinh u$  for  $\sqrt{x^2 + a^2}$ ,  $dx = a \cosh u \cdot du$ . From (5), above; and (22) and (24), page 613,

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \int \sqrt{x^2 + a^2} \cdot dx &= \int \sqrt{a^2(1 + \sinh^2 u)} \cdot a \cosh u \cdot du = a^2 \int \cosh^2 u \cdot du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} a^2 \int (\cosh 2u + 1) \cdot du; \\ &= \frac{1}{2} a^2 \sinh 2u + \frac{1}{2} a^2 u = \frac{1}{2} a \sinh u \cdot a \cosh u + \frac{1}{2} a^2 u. \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x \sqrt{x^2 + a^2} + \frac{1}{2} a^2 \sinh^{-1} x/a. \end{aligned}$$

And since we are given  $\sinh^{-1} y = \log(y + \sqrt{y^2 + 1})$  on page 613, (31),

$$\therefore \int \sqrt{x^2 + a^2} \cdot dx = \frac{x \sqrt{x^2 + a^2}}{2} + \frac{a^2}{2} \log \frac{x + \sqrt{x^2 + a^2}}{a} + C.$$

(2) Now try and show that  $\int \sqrt{x^2 - a^2} \cdot dx$  furnishes the result  $\frac{1}{2}x\sqrt{x^2 - a^2} - \frac{1}{2}a^2 \log(x + \sqrt{x^2 - a^2})/a + C$ , when treated in a similar manner by substituting  $x = a \cosh u$ .

(3) Find the area of the segment  $OPA$  (Fig. 138) of the rectangular hyperbola  $x^2 - y^2 = 1$ . Put  $x = \cosh u$ ;  $y = \sinh u$ . From (6),

$$\therefore \text{Area } APM = \int_1^x y \cdot dx = \int_0^u \sinh^2 u \cdot du = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^u (\cosh 2u - 1) \cdot du.$$

Area  $APM = \frac{1}{4} \sinh 2u - \frac{1}{2}u$ .  $\therefore$  Area  $OPA = \frac{1}{2}$  Area  $PM \cdot OM - \text{Area } APM = \frac{1}{2}u$ . Note the area of the circular sector  $OP'A$  (same figure)  $= \frac{1}{2}\theta$ , where  $\theta$  is the angle  $AOP'$ .

(4) Rectify the catenary curve  $y = c \cosh x/c$  measured from its lowest point. Ansr.  $l = c \sinh(x/c)$ . Note  $l = 0$  when  $x = 0$ ,  $\therefore C = 0$ . Hint. (26), page 613.

(5) Rectify the curve  $y^2 = 4ax$  (see Ex. (1), page 246). The expression  $\sqrt{1 + a/x} dx$  has to be integrated. Hint. Substitute  $x = a \sinh^2 u$ .  $2a \int \cosh^2 u \cdot du$  remains. Ansr.  $= a \int (1 + \cosh 2u) du$ , or  $a(u + \frac{1}{2} \sinh 2u)$ . At vertex, where  $x = 0$ ,  $\sinh u = 0$ ,  $C = 0$ . Show that the portion bounded by an ordinate passing through the focus has  $l = 2.296a$ . Hint. Diagrams are a great help in fixing limits. Note  $x = a$ ,  $\therefore \sinh u = 1$ ,  $\cosh u = \sqrt{2}$ , from (5). From (31), page 613,  $\sinh^{-1} 1 = u = \log(1 + \sqrt{2})$ . From (20), page 613,  $\sinh 2u = 2 \sinh u \cdot \cosh u$ .

$$l = a \left[ u + \frac{1}{2} \sinh 2u \right]_0^u = a(u + \sinh u \cdot \cosh u) = a \left[ \log(1 + \sqrt{2}) + \sqrt{2} \right].$$

Use Table of Natural Logarithms, Appendix II. Ansr.  $2.296a$ .

(6) Show that  $y = A \cosh mx + B \sinh mx$ , satisfies the equation of  $d^2y/dx^2 = m^2y$ , where  $m$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  are undetermined constants. Hint. Differentiate twice, etc. Note the resemblance of this result with  $y = A \cos nx + B \sin nx$ , which furnishes  $d^2y/dx^2 = -n^2y$  when treated in the same way.

(7) In studying the rate of formation of carbon monoxide in gas producers, J. K. Clement and O. N. Haskins (1909), obtained the equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} (\beta^2 - x^2)$$

with the initial condition that  $x = 0$  when  $t = 0$ . Integrating, and

$$\log \frac{\beta + x}{\beta - x} = 2\alpha t.$$

Solving for  $x$ , we get

$$x = \beta \frac{e^{\alpha t} - e^{-\alpha t}}{e^{\alpha t} + e^{-\alpha t}} = \beta \tanh \alpha t.$$

V. Numerical Values of hyperbolic functions.—Table IV. (pages 616, 617, and 618) contains numerical values of the hyperbolic sines and cosines for values of  $x$  from 0 to 5, at intervals of 0.01. They have been checked by comparison with *Des Ingenieurs Taschenbuch*, edited by the Hütte Academy, Berlin, 1877. The tables are used exactly like ordinary logarithm tables. Numerical values of the other functions can be easily deduced from those of  $\sinh x$  and  $\cosh x$  by the aid of equations (4).

EXAMPLE.—The equation  $l = x(e^{s/2x} - e^{-s/2x})$ , represents the relation between the length  $l$  of the string hanging from two points at a distance  $s$  apart when the horizontal tension of the string is equal to a length  $x$  of the string. Show that the equation may be written in the form  $11u - 10 \sinh u = 0$  by writing  $u = 10/x$  and solved by the aid of Table IV., page 616. Given  $l = 22$ ,  $s = 20$ .  $\therefore x = 13.16$ . Hint. Substitute  $s = 20$ ,  $l = 22$ ,  $u = 10/x$ , and we get  $22u - 10(e^u - e^{-u}) = 0$ ;  $\therefore 11u - 10 \times \frac{1}{2}(e^u - e^{-u}) = 0$ ; etc.  $u$  is found by the method described in a later chapter; the result is  $u = 0.76$ . But  $x = 10/u$ , etc.

VI. *Demoivre's theorem*.—We have seen that

$$\begin{aligned}\cos x &= \frac{1}{2}(e^{ix} + e^{-ix}); \quad i \sin x = \frac{1}{2}(e^{ix} - e^{-ix}), \\ e^{ix} &= \cos x + i \sin x; \quad \text{and } e^{-ix} = \cos x - i \sin x.\end{aligned}$$

If we substitute  $nx$  for  $x$ , where  $n$  is any real quantity, positive or negative, integral or fractional,

$$\cos nx = \frac{1}{2}(e^{inx} + e^{-inx}); \quad i \sin nx = \frac{1}{2}(e^{inx} - e^{-inx}).$$

By addition and subtraction and a comparison with the preceding expressions; we get

$$\begin{aligned}\cos nx + i \sin nx &= e^{inx} = (\cos x + i \sin x)^n \\ \cos nx - i \sin nx &= e^{-inx} = (\cos x - i \sin x)^n\end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

which is known as **Demoivre's theorem**. The theorem is useful when we want to express an imaginary exponential in the form of a trigonometrical series, in certain integrations, and in solving certain equations.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Verify the following result and compare it with Demoivre's theorem:  $(\cos x + i \sin x)^2 = (\cos^2 x - \sin^2 x) + 2i \sin x \cos x = \cos 2x + i \sin 2x$ .

(2) Show  $ea + i\beta = ea e^{i\beta} = e^a(\cos \beta + i \sin \beta)$ .

(3) Show  $\int e^{ax}(\cos \beta x + i \sin \beta x) dx = e^{ax}(\cos \beta x + i \sin \beta x)/(a + i\beta)$ ;

$$\begin{aligned}&= e^{ax} \frac{(\cos \beta x + i \sin \beta x)(a - i\beta)}{a^2 + \beta^2}; \\ &= e^{ax} \frac{(a \cos \beta x + \beta \sin \beta x) + i(-\beta \cos \beta x + a \sin \beta x)}{a^2 + \beta^2} + C,\end{aligned}$$

by separating the real and imaginary parts.

For a fuller discussion on the properties and uses of hyperbolic functions, consult G. Chrystal's *Algebra*, Part ii., London, 1890; and A. G. Greenhill's *A Chapter in the Integral Calculus*, London, 1888.

## CHAPTER VI.

### HOW TO SOLVE NUMERICAL EQUATIONS.

"The object of all arithmetical operations is to save direct enumeration. Having done a sum once, we seek to preserve the answer for future use ; so too the purpose of algebra, which, by substituting relations for values, symbolizes and definitely fixes all numerical operations which follow the same rule."—E. MACH.

#### § 113. Some General Properties of the Roots of Equations.

THE mathematical processes culminating in the integral calculus furnish us with a relation between the quantities under investigation. For example, in § 20, we found a relation between the temperature of a body and the time the body has been cooling. This relation was represented symbolically :  $\theta = be^{-at}$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants. I have also shown how to find values for the constants which invariably affect formulæ representing natural phenomena. It now remains to compute one variable when the numerical values of the other variable and of the constants are known. Given  $b$ ,  $a$ , and  $\theta$  to find  $t$ , or given  $b$ ,  $a$ , and  $t$  to find  $\theta$ . The operation of finding the numerical value of the unknown quantity is called **solving the equation**. The object of solving an equation is to find what value or values of the unknown will satisfy the equation, or will make one side of the equation equal to the other. Such values of the unknown are called **roots**, or **solutions** of the equation.

The reader must distinguish between **identical equations** like

$$(x + 1)^2 = x^2 + 2x + 1,$$

which are true for *all* values of  $x$ , and **conditional equations** like

$$x + 1 = 8 ; x^2 + 2x + 1 = 0,$$

which are only true when  $x$  has some particular value or values, in the former case, when  $x = 7$ , and in the latter when  $x = -1$ .

An equation like

$$x^2 + 2x + 2 = 0,$$

has no real roots because no real values of  $x$  will satisfy the equation. By solving as if the equation had real roots, the imaginary again forces itself on our attention. The *imaginary roots* of this equation are  $-1 \pm \sqrt{-1}$ , or  $-1 \pm i$ . Imaginary roots in an equation with real coefficients occur in pairs. *E.g.*, if  $a + \beta\sqrt{-1}$  is one root of the equation,  $a - \beta\sqrt{-1}$  is another.

The general equation of the  $n$ th degree is

$$x^n + ax^{n-1} + bx^{n-2} + \dots + qx + R = 0. \quad (1)$$

The term  $R$  is called the *absolute term*. If  $n = 2$ , the equation is a *quadratic*,  $x^2 + ax + R = 0$ ; if  $n = 3$ , the equation is said to be a *cubic*; if  $n = 4$ , a *biquadratic*, etc. If  $x^n$  has any coefficient, we can divide through by this quantity, and so reduce the equation to the above form. When the coefficients  $a, b, \dots$ , instead of being literal, are real numbers, the given relation is said to be a **numerical equation**. Every equation of the  $n$ th degree has  $n$  equal or unequal roots and no more—**Gauss' law**. *E.g.*,  $x^5 + x^4 + x + 1 = 0$ , has five roots and no more.

General methods for the solution of algebraic equations of the first, second and third degree are treated in regular algebraic text-books; it is, therefore, unnecessary to give more than a brief *résumé* of their most salient features. We nearly always resort to the approximation methods for finding the roots of the numerical equations found in practical calculations.

After suitable reduction, every quadratic may be written in the form :

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0; \text{ or, } x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \frac{c}{a} = 0. \quad (2)$$

If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  represent the roots of this equation,  $x$  must be equal to  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ , where

$$\alpha = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}; \text{ and, } \beta = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad (3)$$

The sum and product of the roots in (3) are therefore so related that  $\alpha + \beta = -b/a$ ;  $\alpha\beta = c/a$ . Hence  $x^2 - (\alpha + \beta)x + \alpha\beta = 0$ ; or,  $x^2 - (\text{sum of roots})x + \text{product of roots} = 0$ ; (4) if one of the roots is known, the other can be deduced directly. From the second of equations (2), and (4) we see that the sum of the roots is equal to the coefficient of the second term with its sign changed,

the product of the roots is equal to the absolute term. If  $a$  is a root of the given equation, the equation can be divided by  $x - a$  without remainder. If  $\beta, \gamma, \dots$  are roots of the equation, the equation can be divided by  $(x - \beta)(x - \gamma) \dots$  without remainder. From Gauss' law, therefore, (2) may be written

$$(x - a)(x - \beta) = 0. \quad (5)$$

From (3), and (4), we can deduce many important particulars respecting the nature of the roots<sup>1</sup> of the quadratic. These are:

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COEFFICIENTS OF EQUATIONS AND THEIR ROOTS.

Relation between the Coefficients.	The Nature of the Roots.
$b^2 - 4ac$ is $\begin{cases} \text{positive,} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \text{zero,} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \text{negative,} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \text{perfect square,} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \text{not a perfect square,} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{cases}$	$\begin{cases} \text{real and unequal.} & \cdot & \cdot & (6) \\ \text{real and equal.} & \cdot & \cdot & (7) \\ \text{imaginary and unequal.} & \cdot & \cdot & (8) \\ \text{rational and unequal.} & \cdot & \cdot & (9) \\ \text{irrational and unequal.} & \cdot & \cdot & (10) \end{cases}$
$a, b, c$ , have the same sign,	negative. $\cdot \cdot \cdot (11)$
$a, b$ , differ in sign from $c$ ,	opposite sign. $\cdot \cdot \cdot (12)$
$a, c$ , differ in sign from $b$ ,	positive. $\cdot \cdot \cdot (13)$
$a = 0$ ,	one root infinite. $\cdot \cdot \cdot (14)$
$b = 0$ ,	equal and opposite in sign. $\cdot \cdot \cdot (15)$
$c = 0$ ,	one root zero. $\cdot \cdot \cdot (16)$
$c = 0, b = 0$ ,	both roots zero. $\cdot \cdot \cdot (17)$

On account of the important rôle played by the expression  $b^2 - 4ac$ , in fixing the character of the roots, " $b^2 - 4ac$ ," is called the **discriminant** of the equation.

EXAMPLES.—(1) In the familiar equation of Guldberg and Waage

$$K(a - x)(b - x) = (c + x)(d + x)$$

found in most text-books of theoretical chemistry, show that

$$x = \frac{K(a + b) + d + c}{2(K - 1)} \pm \sqrt{\left\{ \frac{K(a + b) + d + c}{2(K - 1)} \right\}^2 + \frac{cd + Kab}{K - 1}}.$$

Hint. Expand the given equation; rearrange terms in descending powers of  $x$ ; and substitute in the above equations (2) and (3).

(2) If  $v^2 - 516.17v + 1852.6 = 0$ , find  $v$ . This equation arises in Ex. (4), page 362. On reference to equations (2) and (3),  $a = 1$ ;  $b = -516.17$ ;  $c = 1852.6$ . Hence show that  $v = \frac{1}{2}(516.17 \pm 508.94)$ .

(3) The thermal value,  $q$ , of the reaction between hydrogen and carbon dioxide is represented by  $q = -10232 + 0.1685T + 0.00101T^2$ , where  $T$  denotes the absolute temperature. Show  $T = 3100^\circ$  when  $q = 0$ . Hint. You will have to reject the negative root. To assist the calculation, note  $(0.1685)^2 = 0.02839$ ;  $4 \times 10232 \times 0.00101 = 41.33728$ ;  $\sqrt{41.36567} = 6.432$ .

<sup>1</sup> In the table, the words "equal" and "unequal" refer to the numerical values of the roots.

### § 114. Graphic Methods for the Approximate Solution of Numerical Equations.

In practical work, it is generally most convenient to get *approximate* values for the real roots of equations of higher degree than the second. Cardan's general method—found in the regular text-books—for equations of the third degree, is generally so unwieldy as to be almost useless. Trigonometrical methods are better. For the numerical equations pertaining to practical work, one of the most instructive methods for locating the real roots, is to trace the graph of the given function. Every point of intersection of the curve with the  $x$ -axis, represents a root of the equation. The location of the roots of the equation thus reduces itself to the determination of the points of intersection of the graph of the equation with the  $x$ -axis. The accuracy of the graphic method depends on the scale of the diagram and the skill of the draughtsman. The larger the "scale" the more accurate the results.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Find the root of the equation  $x + 2 = 0$ . At sight, of course, we know that the root is  $-2$ . But plot the curve  $y = x + 2$ , for values of  $y$  when  $-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3$ , are successively assigned to  $x$ . The curve (Fig. 140) cuts the  $x$ -axis when  $x = -2$ . Hence,  $x = -2$ , is a root of the equation.

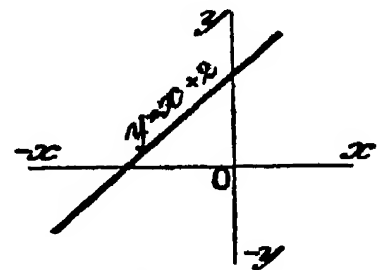


FIG. 140.

(2) Locate the roots of  $x^2 - 8x + 9 = 0$ . Proceed as before by assigning successive values to  $x$ . Roots occur between 6 and 7 and 1 and 2.

(3) Show that  $x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6 = 0$  has roots in the neighbourhood of 1, 2, and 3.

(4) Show, by plotting, that an equation of an odd degree with real coefficients, has either one or an odd number of real roots. For large values of  $x$ , the graph must lie on the positive side of the  $x$ -axis, and on the opposite side for large negative values of  $x$ . Therefore the graph must cut the  $x$ -axis at least once; if twice, then it must cut the axis a third time, etc.

(5) Prove by plotting if the results obtained by substituting two numbers are of opposite signs, at least one root lies between the numbers substituted.

(6) Solve  $x^3 + x - 2 = 0$ . Here  $x^3 = -x + 2$ . Put  $y = x^3$  and  $y = -x + 2$ . Plot the graph of each of these equations, using a Table of Cubes. The abscissa of the point of intersection of these two curves is one root of the given equation.  $x = OM$  (Fig. 141) is the root required.

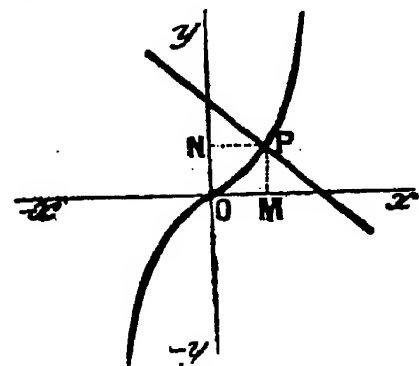


FIG. 141.



(7) Show, by plotting, that an equation of an even degree with real coefficients, has either 2, 4, . . . or an even number of roots, or else no real roots at all.

(8) Plot  $x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$ . The curve touches but does not cut the  $x$ -axis.

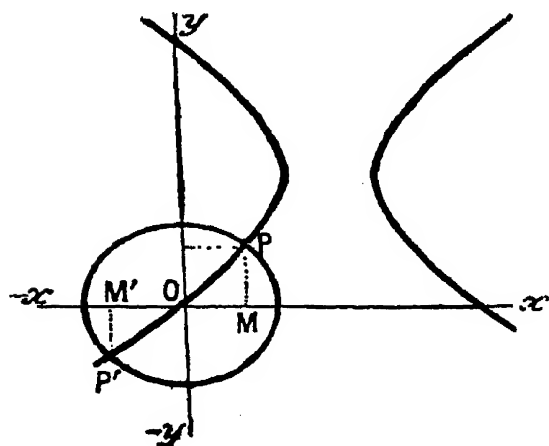


FIG. 142.

This means that the point of contact of the curve with the  $x$ -axis, corresponds to two points infinitely close together. That is to say, that there are at least two equal roots.

(9) Solve  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ ;  $x^2 - 4x = y^2 - 3y$ . Plot the two curves as shown in Fig. 142 hence  $x = OM$  or  $OM'$  are the roots required.

The graphic method can also be employed for transcendental equations.

(10) If  $x + \cos x = 0$ , we may locate the roots by finding the point of intersection of the two curves  $y = -x$  and  $y = \cos x$ .

(11) If  $x + e^x = 0$ , plot  $y = e^x$  and  $y = -x$ . Table IV., page 616, for  $e^x$ .

In his *Die Thermodynamik in der Chemie* (Leipzig, 61, 1893), J. J. van Laar tabulates the values of  $b$  calculated from the expression

$$\log \frac{v_2 - b}{v_1 - b} - 2 = \frac{1.82}{v_1 - b},$$

for corresponding values of  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . Here is part of the table :

$v_1$ .	$v_2$ .	$b$ .
7754	1.0169	0.804
1688	1.0432	0.775
196.5	1.1268	0.700

Operations like this are very tedious. There are no general methods for solving equations containing logarithms, sines, cosines, etc. There is nothing for it but to educe the required value by successive approximations. Thus, substitute for  $v_2$  and  $v_1$ , so as to get

$$\log (196.5 - b) - \log (1.1268 - b) - 2 = \frac{1.82}{196.5 - b}. \quad (1)$$

Now set up the following table containing values of  $b$  computed on the right and on the left sides of equation (1):—

$b$ .	Right Side.	Left Side.
1.0	14.5	5.3
0.8	5.6	4.1
0.6	3.4	3.9
0.4	2.5	3.6

In the first pair,  $b$  is greater on the right side than on the left; in the second pair,  $b$  is greater on the left side than on the right. Hence, we see that the desired value of  $b$  lies between 0.8 and 0.6. Having thus located the root, further progress depends upon the patience of the computer. Closer approximations are got by proceeding in the same way for values of  $v$  between 0.8 and 0.6. By plotting the assigned values of  $b$ , as ordinates, with the computed values on the right and left sides of (1), as abscissæ, it is possible to abbreviate the work very considerably. Very often the physical conditions of the problem furnish us with an approximate idea of the magnitude of the desired root.

EXAMPLES.—(1) M. Planck (*Wied. Ann.*, **40**, 561, 1890) in his study of the potential difference between two dilute solutions of binary electrolytes, developed the equation

$$\frac{xU_2 - U_1}{V_2 - xV_1} = \frac{\log k - \log x}{\log k + \log x} \cdot \frac{x C_2 - C_1}{C_2 - x C_1}.$$

By plotting  $x$  as abscissa and  $y$  as ordinate in the two equations

$$y = \frac{xU_2 - U_1}{V_2 - xV_1}; \quad y = \frac{\log k - \log x}{\log k + \log x} \cdot \frac{x C_2 - C_1}{C_2 - x C_1},$$

the point of intersection of the two curves will be found to give the desired value of  $x$ . In one experiment the constants assumed the following values:  $U_1 = 5.2$ ;  $U_2 = 272$ ;  $V_1 = 5.4$ ;  $V_2 = 54$ ;  $C_1 = 0.1$ ;  $C_2 = 1.0$ . It is required to find the corresponding value of  $x$ . The alternative method just described furnishes  $x = 0.1139$ .

(2) W. Hecht, M. Conrad and O. Brückner (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, **4**, 273, 1889) in their study of "affinity constants" solved the equations

$$0.3537 = \log \frac{25}{25 - x} - \log \frac{25}{20 - x}; \quad 0.3537 = \log \frac{25}{20 - y} - \log \frac{25}{25 - y},$$

"with an accuracy up to 0.01 of the units employed". Ansrs.  $x = 36.78$ ;  $y = 8.217$ .

### § 115. Newton's Method for the Approximate Solution of Numerical Equations.

According to the above method, the equation

$$f(x) = y = x^3 - 7x + 7, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

has a root lying somewhere between  $-3$  and  $-4$ . We can keep on assigning intermediate values to  $x$  until we get as near to the exact value of the root as our patience will allow. Thus, if  $x = -3$ ,  $y = +1$ , if  $x = -3.2$ ,  $y = -3.3$ . The desired root thus lies somewhere between  $-3$  and  $-3.2$ . Assume that the actual value of the root is  $-3.1$ . To get a close approximation to the root by plotting is a somewhat laborious operation. Newton's method based on Taylor's theorem, allows the process to be shortened.

Let  $a$  be the desired root, then

$$f(a) = a^3 - 7a + 7. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

As a first approximation, assume that  $a = -3.1 + h$ , is the required root. From (1), by differentiation,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 7; \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 6x; \quad \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} = 6. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

All succeeding derivatives are zero. By Taylor's theorem

$$f(x + h) = y + h \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{h^2}{2!} \cdot \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \frac{h^3}{3!} \cdot \frac{d^3y}{dx^3}.$$

Put  $v = -3.1$  and  $a = v + h$ .

$$f(a) = f(v + h) = f(v) + h \frac{dv}{dx} + \frac{h^2}{2!} \cdot \frac{d^2v}{dx^2} + \frac{h^3}{3!} \cdot \frac{d^3v}{dx^3}.$$

Neglecting the higher powers of  $h$ , in the first approximation,

$$f(v) + h \frac{dv}{dx} = 0; \text{ or, } h = - \frac{f(v)}{f'(v)}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

where  $f'(v) = dv/dx$ . The value of  $f(v)$  is found by substituting  $-3.1$ , in (2), and the value of  $f'(v)$  by substituting  $-3.1$ , in the first of equations (3), thus, from (4),

$$h = - \frac{f(v)}{f'(v)} = \frac{1.091}{21.83} = 0.04999.$$

Hence the first approximation to the root is  $-3.05$ .

As a second approximation, assume that

$$a = -3.05 + h_1 = v_1 + h_1.$$

As before,

$$h_1 = - \frac{f(v_1)}{f'(v_1)} = + \frac{0.022625}{20.9081} = + 0.001082.$$

The second approximation, therefore, is  $-3.048918$ . We can, in this way, obtain third and higher degrees of approximation. The first approximation usually gives all that is required for practical work.

EXAMPLES.—(1) In the same way show that the first approximation to one of the roots of  $x^3 - 4x^2 - 2x + 4 = 0$ , is  $\alpha = 4.2491 \dots$  and the second  $\alpha = 4.2491405 \dots$

(2) If  $x^3 + 2x^2 + 3x - 50 = 0$ ;  $x = 2.9022834 \dots$

(3) The method can sometimes be advantageously varied as follows. Solve

$$\left(\frac{0.795}{1+x}\right)^x = 0.398. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

Put  $x = 1$ , and the left side becomes  $0.3975$ —a number very nearly  $0.398$ . If, therefore, we put  $1 + \alpha$  for  $x$ ,  $\alpha$  will be a very small magnitude.

$$\therefore \left(\frac{0.795}{2+\alpha}\right)^{1+\alpha} = f(\alpha). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

By Maclaurin's theorem,

$$f(\alpha) = f(0) + \alpha f'(0) + \text{remaining terms}. \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

As a first approximation, omit the remaining terms since they include higher powers of a small quantity  $\alpha$ . If  $f(0) = 0.3975$ , by differentiation of the left side of (6),  $f'(0) = -0.5655$ . Hence,

$$f(\alpha) = 0.3975 - 0.5655\alpha.$$

But by hypothesis,  $f(\alpha) = 0.398$ ,

$$\therefore 0.398 = 0.3975 - 0.5655\alpha; \text{ or, } \alpha = -0.0008842.$$

Since,  $x = 1 + \alpha$ , it follows that  $x = 0.9991158$ . By substituting this value of  $x$  in the left side of (5), the expression reduces to  $0.39801$  which is sufficiently close to  $0.398$  for all practical requirements. But, if not, a more exact result will be furnished by treating  $0.9991158 + \rho = x$  exactly as we have done  $1 + \alpha = x$ .

## § 116. How to Separate Equal Roots from an Equation.

This is a preliminary operation to the determination of the roots by a process, perhaps simpler than the above. From (5), page 354, we see that if  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots$  are the roots of an equation of the  $n$ th degree,

$$x^n + ax^{n-1} + \dots + sx + R = 0,$$

becomes

$$(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) \dots (x - \eta) = 0.$$

If two of the roots are equal, two factors, say  $x - \alpha$  and  $x - \beta$ , will be identical and the equation will be divisible by  $(x - \alpha)^2$ ; if there are three equal roots, the equation will be divisible by  $(x - \alpha)^3$ , etc. If there are  $n$  equal roots, the equation will contain a factor

$(x - a)^n$ , and the first derivative will contain a factor  $n(x - a)^{n-1}$ , or  $x - a$  will occur  $n - 1$  times. The highest common factor of the original equation and its first derivative must, therefore, contain  $x - a$ , repeated once less than in the original equation. If there is no common factor, there are no equal roots.

EXAMPLES.—(1)  $x^3 - 5x^2 - 8x + 48 = 0$  has a first derivative  $3x^2 - 10x - 8$ . The common factor is  $x - 4$ . This shows that the equation has two roots equal to  $x = 4$ .

(2)  $x^4 + 7x^3 - 3x^2 - 55x + 50 = 0$  has two roots each equal to  $x = 5$ .

### § 117. Sturm's Method of Locating the Real and Unequal Roots of a Numerical Equation.

Newton's method of approximation does not give satisfactory results when the two roots have nearly equal values. For instance, the curve

$$y = x^3 - 7x + 7$$

has two nearly equal roots between 1 and 2, which do not appear if we draw the graph for the corresponding values of  $x$  and  $y$ , viz.:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} x = 0, & 1, & 2, & 3, \dots; \\ y = 7, & 1, & 1, & 13, \dots \end{array}$$

The problem of separating the real roots of a numerical equation is, however, completely solved by what is known as Sturm's theorem. It is clear that if  $x$  assumes every possible value in succession from  $+\infty$  to  $-\infty$ , every change of sign will indicate the proximity of a real root. The total number of roots is known from the degree of the equation, therefore the number of imaginary roots can be determined by difference.

Number of real roots + Number of imaginary roots = Total number of roots.

Sturm's theorem enables these changes of sign to be readily detected. The process is as follows:—

First remove the real equal roots, as indicated in the preceding section, let

$$y = x^3 - 7x + 7, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

remain. Find the first differential coefficient,

$$\dot{y} = 3x^2 - 7. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

Divide the primitive (1) by the first derivative (2), thus,

$$\frac{x^3 - 7x + 7}{3x^2 - 7},$$

and we get  $\frac{1}{3}x$  with the remainder  $-\frac{1}{3}(14x - 21)$ . Change the

sign of the remainder and multiply by  $\frac{3}{7}$ , the result

$$R = 2x - 3, \quad (3)$$

is now to be divided into (2). Change the sign of the remainder and we obtain,

$$R = 1. \quad (4)$$

The right-hand sides of equations (1), (2), (3), (4),

$$x^3 - 7x + 7; 3x^2 - 7; 2x - 3; 1,$$

are known as **Sturm's functions**.

Substitute  $-\infty$  for  $x$  in (1), the sign is negative;

„ „ (2), „ positive;

„ „ (3), „ negative;

“ “ (4), “ positive.

Note that the last result is independent of  $x$ . The changes of sign may, therefore, be written

- + - +.

In the same way,

Value of $x$ .	Corresponding Signs of Sturm's Functions.	Number of Changes of Sign.
$-\infty$	$- + - +$	3
$-4$	$- + - +$	3
$-3$	$+ + - +$	2
$-2$	$+ + - +$	2
$-1$	$+ - - +$	2
$+0$	$+ - - +$	2
$+1$	$+ - - +$	2
$+2$	$+ + + +$	0
$+\infty$	$+ + + +$	0

There is, therefore, no change of sign caused by the substitution of any value of  $x$  less than  $-4$ , or greater than  $+2$ ; on passing from  $-4$  to  $-3$ , there is one change of sign; on passing from  $1$  to  $2$ , there are two changes of sign. The equation has, therefore, one real root between  $-4$  and  $-3$ , and two between  $1$  and  $2$ .

It now remains to determine a sufficient number of digits, to distinguish between the two roots lying between 1 and 2. First reduce the value of  $x$  in the given equation by 1. This is done by substituting  $u + 1$  in place of  $x$ , and then finding Sturm's functions for the resulting equation. These are,

$$u^3 + 3u^2 - 4u + 1; 3u^2 + 6u - 4; 2u - 1; 1.$$

As above, noting that if  $x = +1.1$ ,  $u = +0.1$ , etc.,

Value of $x$ .	Corresponding Signs of Sturm's Functions.	Number of Changes of Sign.
1.1	+ - - +	2
1.2	+ - - +	2
1.3	+ - - +	2
1.4	- - - +	1
1.5	- - + +	1
1.6	- + + +	1
1.7	+ + + +	0

The second digits of the roots between 1 and 2 are, therefore, 3 and 6, and three real roots of the given equation are approximately  $-3$ ,  $1.3$ ,  $1.6$ .

EXAMPLES.—Locate the roots in the following equations:

(1)  $x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x + 13$ . Ansr. Between  $-3$  and  $-2$ ;  $2$  and  $2.5$ ;  $2.5$  and  $3$

(2)  $x^3 - 4x^2 - 6x + 8$ . Ansr. Between  $0$  and  $1$ ;  $5$  and  $6$ ;  $-1$  and  $-2$ .

(3)  $x^4 + x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 4$ . We have five Sturm's functions for this equation. Call the original equation (1), the first derivative,  $4x^3 + 3x^2 - 2x - 2$ , (2); divide (1) by (2) and  $x^2 + 2x - 6$  (3) remains; divide (2) by (3) and  $-x + 1$  (4) remains; divide (3) by (4) and change the sign of the result for  $+1$  (5). Now let  $x = +\infty$  and  $-\infty$ , we get

$+++-+$  (2 variations of sign);  $+ - + + +$  (2 variations).

This means that there are no real roots. All the roots are imaginary.

(4) Calculate the volume,  $v$ , of one gram of carbon dioxide at  $0^\circ \text{C}$ . and one megadyne pressure per sq. cm., given van der Waals' equation

$$\left(p + \frac{1852.6}{v^2}\right)(v - 0.9565) = 1.8824T.$$

$0^\circ \text{C} = 273.7^\circ \text{T}$ ;  $p = 1$ . Expand the equation and arrange terms in descending powers of  $v$ . Substitute the numerical values of the constants and reduce to

$$v^3 - 516.17v^2 + 1852.6v - 1772.0 = 0.$$

The only admissible root of this cubic is  $512.5$ . The labour of solving this equation can sometimes be reduced by neglecting  $a/v^2$  when it is small.

(5) The equation,  $x^3 - 3rx^2 + 4r^3\rho = 0$ , is obtained in problems referring to the depth to which a floating sphere of radius  $r$  and density  $\rho$  sinks in water. Solve this equation for the case of a wooden ball of unit radius and specific gravity  $0.65$ . Hence,  $x^3 - 3x^2 + 2.6 = 0$ . The three roots, by Sturm's theorem, are—a negative root, a positive root between  $1$  and  $2$ , and one over  $2$ . The depth of the sphere in the water cannot be greater than its diameter  $2$ . A negative root does not represent a physical reality. The two negative roots must, therefore, be excluded from the solution. The other root, by Newton's method of approximation, is  $x = 1.204 \dots$

In this last example we have rejected two roots because they were inconsistent with the physical conditions of the problem under consideration. This is a very common thing to do. Not all the solutions to which an equation may lead are solutions of the problem. Of course, every solution has some meaning, but this may be quite outside the requirements of the problem. A mathematical equation often expresses more than Nature allows. In the physical world only changes of a certain kind take place. If the velocity of a falling body is represented by the expression  $v^2 = 64s$ , then, if we want to calculate the velocity when  $s$  is 4, we get  $v^2 = 256$ , or,  $v = \pm 16$ . In other words, the velocity is either positive or negative. We must therefore limit the generality of the mathematical statement by rejecting those changes which are physically inadmissible. Thus we may have to reject imaginary roots when the problem requires real numbers; and negative or fractional roots, when the problem requires positive or whole numbers. Sometimes, indeed, none of the solutions will satisfy the conditions imposed by the problem, in this case the problem is indeterminate. The restrictions which may be imposed by the application of mathematical equations to specific problems, introduces us to the idea of **limiting conditions**, which is of great importance in higher mathematics. The ultimate test of every solution is that it shall satisfy the equation when substituted in place of the variable. If not it is no solution.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1)  $A$  is 40 years,  $B$  20 years old. In how many years will  $A$  be three times as old as  $B$ ? Let  $x$  denote the required number of years.

$$\therefore 40 + x = 3(20 + x); \text{ or } x = -10.$$

But the problem requires a positive number. The answer, therefore, is that  $A$  will never be three times as old as  $B$ . (The negative sign means that  $A$  was three times as old as  $B$ , 10 years ago.)

(2) A number  $x$  is squared; subtract 7; extract the square root of the result; add twice the number, 5 remains. What was the number  $x$ ?

$$\therefore 2x + \sqrt{(x^2 - 7)} = 5.$$

Solve in the usual way, namely, square  $5 - 2x = \sqrt{x^2 - 7}$ ; rearrange terms and use (2), § 113. Hence  $x = 4$  or  $\frac{3}{4}$ . On trial both solutions,  $x = 4$  and  $x = 2\frac{3}{4}$ , fail to satisfy the test. These *extraneous solutions* have been introduced during rationalization (by squaring).

## § 118. Horner's Method for Approximating to the Real Roots of Numerical Equations.

When the first significant digit or digits of a root have been obtained, by, say, Sturm's theorem, so that one root may be



distinguished from all the other roots nearly equal to it, Horner's method is one of the simplest and best ways of carrying the approximation as far as may be necessary. So far as practical requirements are concerned, Horner's process is perfection. The arithmetical methods for the extraction of square and cube roots are special cases of Horner's method, because to extract  $\sqrt[3]{9}$ , or  $\sqrt[3]{9}$ , is equivalent to finding the roots of the equation  $x^3 - 9 = 0$ , or  $x^3 - 9 = 0$ .

"Considering the remarkable elegance, generality, and simplicity of the method, it is not a little surprising that it has not taken a more prominent place in current mathematical text-books. Although it has been well expounded by several English writers, . . . it has scarcely as yet found a place in English curricula. Out of five standard Continental text-books where one would have expected to find it we found it mentioned in only one, and there it was expounded in a way which showed little insight into its true character. This probably arises from the mistaken notion that there is in the method some algebraic profundity. As a matter of fact, its spirit is purely arithmetical; and its beauty, which can only be appreciated after one has used it in particular cases, is of that indescribably simple kind which distinguishes the use of position in the decimal notation and the arrangement of the simple rules of arithmetic. It is, in short, one of those things whose invention was the creation of a commonplace."—G. Chrystal, *Text-book of Algebra* (London, 1., 346, 1898).

In outline, the method is as follows: Find by means of Sturm's theorem, or otherwise, the integral part of a root, and transform the equation into another whose roots are less than those of the original equation by the number so found. Suppose we start with the equation

$$x^3 - 7x + 7 = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

which has one real root whose first significant figures we have found to be 1.3. Transform the equation into another whose roots are less by 1.3 than the roots of (1). This is done by substituting  $u + 1.3$  for  $x$ . In this way we obtain,

$$u + 3.90u^2 - 1.93u^3 + .097 = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

The first significant figure of the root of this equation is 0.05. Lower the roots of (2) by the substitution of  $v + 0.05$  for  $u$  in (2). Thus,

$$v^3 + 4.05v^2 - 1.5325v + .010375 = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

The next significant figure of the root, deduced from (3), is .006. We could have continued in this way until the root had been obtained of any desired degree of accuracy.

Practically, the work is not so tedious as just outlined. Let  $a, b, c$ ,

be the coefficients of the given equation,  $R$  the absolute term,

$$ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + R = 0.$$

1. Multiply  $a$  by the first significant digits of the root and add the product to  $b$ . Write the result under  $b$ .

2. Multiply this sum by the first figure of the root, add the product to  $c$ . Write the result under  $c$ .

3. Multiply this sum by the first figure of the root, add the product to  $R$ , and call the result the **first dividend**.

4. Again multiply  $a$  by the root, add the product to the last number under  $b$ .

5. Multiply this sum by the root and add the product to the last number under  $c$ , call the result the **first trial divisor**.

6. Multiply  $a$  by the root once more, and add the product to the last number under  $b$ .

7. Divide the first dividend by the first trial divisor, and the first significant figure in the quotient will be the second significant of the root. Thus starting from the old equation (1), whose root we know to be about 1.

$a$	$b$	$c$	$R$	(Root
1	+ 0	- 7	+ 7	(1·3
	1	1	- 6	
	<hr/>			
	1	- 6		
	1	2		
	<hr/>			
	2	- 4 First trial divisor.	1 First dividend	
	1			
	<hr/>			
	3			

8. Proceed exactly as before for the second trial divisor, using the second digit of the root, *viz.*, ·3.

9. Proceed as before for the second dividend. We finally obtain the result shown in the next scheme. Note that the black figures in the preceding scheme are the coefficients of the second of the equations reduced on the supposition that  $x = 1·3$  is a root of the equation.

$a'$	$b'$	$c'$	$R'$	(Root
1	3	- 4	1	(1·35
	0·8	0·99	- 0·908	
	<hr/>			
	3·8	- 3·01	0·097 Second dividend.	
	0·8	1·08		
	<hr/>			
	3·6	- 1·93 Second trial divisor.		
	0·3			
	<hr/>			
	3·9			

Once more repeating the whole operation, we get,

$a''$	$b''$	$c''$	$R''$	(Root
1	3.9	- 1.98	0.097	(1.856
	0.05	0.1975	- 0.086625	
	<hr/> 3.95	<hr/> - 1.7825	<hr/> 0.010875	Third dividend.
	0.05	0.2000		
	<hr/> 4.00	<hr/> - 1.5825		Third trial divisor.
	0.05			
	<hr/> 4.05			

Having found about five or seven decimal places of the root in this way, several more may be added by dividing, say the fifth trial dividend by the fifth trial divisor. Thus, we pass from 1.356895, to 1.356895867... a degree of accuracy more than sufficient for any practical purpose.

Knowing one root, we can divide out the factor  $x - 1.3569$  from equation (1), and solve the remainder like an ordinary quadratic.

If any root is finite, the dividend becomes zero, as in one of the following examples. If the trial divisor gives a result too large to be subtracted from the preceding dividend, try a smaller digit.

To get the other root whose significant digits are 1.6, proceed as above, using 6 instead of 3 as the quotient from the first dividend and trial divisor. Thus we get 1.692... Several ingenious short cuts have been devised for lessening the labour in the application of Horner's method, but nothing much is gained, when the method has only to be used occasionally, beyond increasing the probability of error. It is usual to write down the successive steps as indicated in the following example.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the root between 6 and 7 in

$$4x^3 - 13x^2 - 31x - 275.$$

4	- 13	- 31	- 275	(6.25
	24	66	210	
	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 85	<hr/> - 65	
	24	210	51.392	
	<hr/> 35	<hr/> 245	<hr/> - 13.608	
	24	11.96	13.608	
	<hr/> 59	<hr/> 256.96	<hr/> 0	
	0.8	12.12		
	<hr/> 59.8	<hr/> 269.08		
	0.8	3.08		
	<hr/> 60.6	<hr/> 272.16		
	0.8			
	<hr/> 61.4			

The steps mark the end of each transformation. The digits in black letters are the coefficients of the successive equations.

(2) There is a positive root between 4 and 5 in  $x^3 + x^2 + x - 100$ . Ansr. 4.2644...

(3) Find the positive and negative roots in  $x^4 + 8x^2 + 16x = 440$ . Ansr. + 3.976..., - 4.3504. To find the negative roots, proceed as before, but first transform the equation into one with an opposite sign by changing the sign of the absolute term.

(4) Show that the root between - 3 and - 4, in equation (1), is - 3.0489173396... Work from  $a = 1$ ,  $b = -0$ ,  $c = -7$ ,  $R = -7$ .

### § 119. Van der Waals' Equation.

The relations between the roots of equations, discussed in this chapter, are interesting in many ways; for the sake of illustration, let us take the van der Waals' relation between the pressure,  $p$ , volume,  $v$ , and temperature,  $T$ , of a gas.

$$\left(p + \frac{a}{v^2}\right)(v - b) = RT; \text{ or, } v^3 - \left(b + \frac{RT}{p}\right)v^2 + \frac{a}{p}v - \frac{ab}{p} = 0. \quad (1)$$

This equation of the third degree in  $v$ , must have three roots,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ , equal or unequal, real or imaginary. In any case,

$$(v - \alpha)(v - \beta)(v - \gamma) = 0. \quad (2)$$

Imaginary roots have no physical meaning; we may therefore confine our attention to the real roots. Of these, we have seen that there must be one, and there may be three. This means that there may be one or three (different) volumes, corresponding with every value of the pressure,  $p$ , and temperature,  $T$ . There are three interesting cases:

*I. There is only one real root present.* This implies that there is one definite volume,  $v$ , corresponding to every assigned value of pressure,  $p$ , and temperature,  $T$ . This is realized in the  $pv$ -curve, of all gases under certain physical conditions; for instance, the graph of carbon dioxide at  $91^\circ$  has only one value of  $p$  corresponding with each value of  $v$ . See curve  $GH$ , Fig. 143.

*II. There are three real unequal roots present.* The  $pv$ -curve of carbon dioxide at temperatures be-

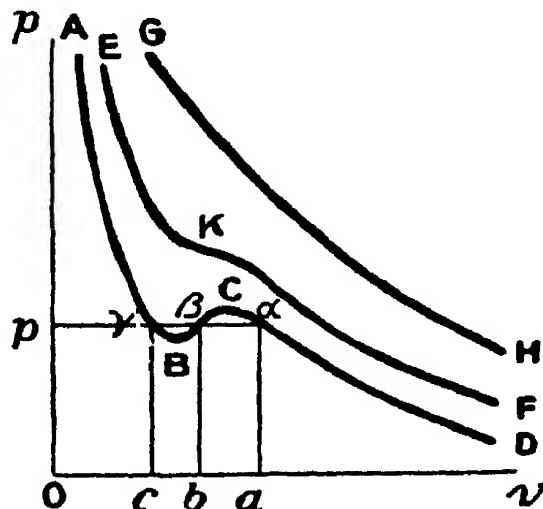


FIG. 143.

low  $32^\circ$ , has a wavy curve  $BC$  (Fig. 143). This means that at this temperature and a pressure of  $Op$ , carbon dioxide ought to have three different volumes corresponding respectively with the abscissæ  $Oc$ ,  $Ob$ ,  $Oa$ . Only two of these three volumes have yet been observed, namely for gaseous  $CO_2$  at  $\alpha$  and for liquid  $CO_2$  at  $\gamma$ , the third, corresponding to the point  $\beta$ , is unknown. The curve  $A\gamma\beta\alpha D$ , has been realized experimentally. The abscissa of the point  $\alpha$  represents the volume of a given mass of gaseous carbon dioxide, the abscissa of the point  $\gamma$  represents the volume occupied by the same mass of liquid carbon dioxide at the same pressure.

Under special conditions, parts of the sinuous curve  $\gamma B\beta C\alpha$  have been realized experimentally.  $A\gamma$  has been carried a little below the line  $\gamma\alpha$ , and  $D\alpha$  has been extended a little above the line  $\gamma\alpha$ . This means that a liquid may exist at a pressure less than that of its own vapour, and a vapour may exist at a pressure higher than the "vapour pressure" of its own liquid.

*III. There are three real equal roots present.* At and above the point where  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma$ , there can only be one value of  $v$  for any assigned value of  $p$ . This point  $K$  (Fig. 143) is no other than the well-known critical point of a gas. Write  $p_c$ ,  $v_c$ ,  $T_c$ , for the critical pressure, volume, and temperature of a gas. From (2),

$$(v - \alpha)^3 = 0; \text{ or, } v = \alpha; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

let  $v_c$  denote the value of  $v$  at the critical point when  $\alpha = v = v_c$ . Therefore, if  $p_c$  denotes the pressure corresponding with  $v = v_c$ , from (1), and the expansion of (3),

$$v^3 - \left(b + \frac{RT_c}{p_c}\right)v^2 + \frac{a}{p_c}v - \frac{ab}{p_c} = v^3 - 3v_c v^2 + 3v_c^2 v - v_c^3. \quad (4)$$

This equation is an identity, therefore, from page 213,

$$3v_c p_c = bp_c + RT_c; \quad 3v_c^2 p_c = a; \quad v_c^3 p_c = ab, \quad . \quad (5)$$

are obtained by equating the coefficients of like powers of the unknown  $v$ . From the last two of equations (5),

$$v_c = 3b. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

From (6) and the second of equations (5),

$$p_c = \frac{1}{27} \cdot \frac{a}{b^2}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

From (6), (7), and the first of equations (5),

$$T_c = \frac{8}{27} \cdot \frac{a}{bR}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

From these results, (6), (7), (8), van der Waals has calculated the values of the constants  $a$  and  $b$  for different gases. Let  $p = p/p^c$ ,  $v = v/v_c$ ,  $T = T/T_c$ . From (1), (6), (7) and (8), we obtain

$$\left(p + \frac{3}{v^2}\right)(3v - 1) = 8T, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

which appears to be van der Waals' equation freed from arbitrary constants. This result has led van der Waals to the belief that all substances can exist in states or conditions where the corresponding pressures, volumes and temperatures are equivalent. These he calls *corresponding states*—*uebereinstimmende Zustände*. The deduction has only been verified in the case of ether, sulphur dioxide and some of the benzene halides.

## CHAPTER VII.

### HOW TO SOLVE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS.

"Theory always tends to become more abstract as it emerges successfully from the chaos of facts by processes of differentiation and elimination, whereby the essentials and their connections become recognized, while minor effects are seen to be secondary or unessential, and are ignored temporarily, to be explained by additional means."—O. HEAVISIDE.

#### § 120. The Solution of a Differential Equation by the Separation of the Variables.

THIS chapter may be looked upon as a sequel to that on the integral calculus, but of a more advanced character. The "methods of integration" already described will be found ample for most physico-chemical processes, but more powerful methods are now frequently required.

I have previously pointed out that in the effort to find the relations between phenomena, the attempt is made to prove that if a limited number of hypotheses are prevised, the observed facts are a necessary consequence of these assumptions. The *modus operandi* is as follows:—

1. To "anticipate Nature" by means of a "working hypothesis," which is possibly nothing more than a "convenient fiction".

"From the practical point of view," said A. W. Rücker (Presidential Address to the B. A. meeting at Glasgow, September, 1901), "it is a matter of secondary importance whether our theories and assumptions are correct, if only they guide us to results in accord with facts. . . . By their aid we can foresee the results of combinations of causes which would otherwise elude us."

2. Thence to deduce an equation representing the momentary rate of change of the two variables under investigation.

3. Then to integrate the equation so obtained in order to reproduce the "working hypothesis" in a mathematical form suitable for experimental verification.

So far as we are concerned this is the ultimate object of our integration. By the process of integration we are said to solve the equation. For the sake of convenience, any equation containing differentials or differential coefficients will, after this, be called a differential equation.

*I.—The variables can be separated directly.*

The different equations hitherto considered have required but little preliminary arrangement before integration. For example, the equations representing the velocity of chemical reactions have the general type :

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = kf(x), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

We have invariably collected all the  $x$ 's on one side, the  $t$ 's, on the other, before proceeding to the integration. This separation of the variables is nearly always attempted before resorting to other artifices for the solution of the differential equation, because the integration is then comparatively simple.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Integrate the equation,  $y \cdot dx + x \cdot dy = 0$ . Rearrange the terms so that

$$\frac{dx}{x} + \frac{dy}{y} = 0; \text{ or, } \int \frac{dx}{x} + \int \frac{dy}{y} = C,$$

by multiplying through with  $1/xy$ . Ansr.  $\log x + \log y = C$ . Two or more apparently different answers may mean the same thing. Thus, the solution of the preceding equation may also be written,  $\log xy = \log e^C$ ; i.e.,  $xy = e^C$ ; or  $\log xy = \log C'$ ; i.e.,  $xy = C'$ .  $C$  and  $\log C'$  are, of course, the arbitrary constants of integration.

(2) F. A. H. Schreinemaker (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 36, 413, 1901) in his study of the distillation of ternary mixtures, employed the equation  $dy/dx = ay/x$ . Hence show that  $y = Cx^a$ . He calls the graph of this equation the "distillation curve".

(3) The equation for the rectilinear motion of a particle under the influence of an attractive force from a fixed point is  $v \cdot dv/dx + ax^{-2} = 0$ ;  $\therefore \frac{1}{2}v^2 = a/x + C$ .

(4) In consequence of imperfect insulation, the charge on an electrified body is dissipated at a rate proportional to the magnitude  $E$  of the charge. Hence show that if  $a$  is a constant depending on the nature of the body, and  $E_0$  represents the magnitude of the charge when  $t$  (time) = 0,  $E = E_0e^{-at}$ . Hint. Compound interest law. Integrate by the separation of the variables. Interpret your result in words.

(5) Solve  $(1 + x^2)dy = \sqrt{y} \cdot dx$ . Ansr.  $2\sqrt{y} - \tan^{-1}x = C$ .

(6) Solve  $y - x \cdot dy/dx = a(y + dy/dx)$ . Ansr.  $y = C(a + x)^{(1-a)}$ .

(7) Abegg's formula for the relation between the dielectric constant,  $D$ , of



a fluid and temperature  $\theta$ , is  $-dD/d\theta = \frac{1}{1+\theta}D$ . Hence show that  $D = Ce^{-\frac{\theta}{1+\theta}}$ , where  $C$  is a constant whose value is to be determined from the conditions of the experiment. Put the answer into words.

(8) What curves have a slope  $-y/x$  to the  $x$ -axis? Ansr. The rectangular hyperbolas  $xy = C$ . Hint. Set up the proper differential equation and solve.

(9) The relation between small changes of pressure and volume of a gas under adiabatic conditions, is  $\gamma p dv + v dp = 0$ . Hence show that  $p v^\gamma = \text{constant}$ .

(10) A lecturer discussing the physical properties of substances at very low temperatures, remarked "it appears that the specific heat,  $\sigma$ , of a substance decreases with decreasing temperatures,  $\theta$ , at a rate proportional to the specific heat of the substance itself". Set up the differential equation to represent this "law" and put your result in a form suitable for experimental verification. Ansr.  $(\log \sigma_0 - \log \sigma)/\theta = \text{const.}$

(11) Helmholtz's equation for the strength of an electric current,  $C$ , at the time  $t$ , is  $C = E/R - (L/R)dC/dt$ , where  $E$  represents the electromotive force in a circuit of resistance  $R$  and self-induction  $L$ . If  $E$ ,  $R$ ,  $L$ , are constants, show that  $RC = E(1 - e^{-Rt/L})$  provided  $C = 0$ , when  $t = 0$ .

(12) The distance  $x$  from the axis of a thick cylindrical tube of metal is related to the internal pressure  $p$  as indicated in the equation  $(2p - a)dx + x dp = 0$ , where  $a$  is a constant. Hence show that  $p = \frac{1}{2}a + Cx^{-2}$ .

(13) A substitution will often enable an equation to be treated by this simple method of solution. Solve  $(x - y^2)dx + 2xydy = 0$ . Ansr.  $xe^{y^2/x} = C$ . Hint. Put  $y^2 = v$ , divide by  $x^2$ ,  $\therefore dx/x + d(y/x) = 0$ , etc.

(14) Solve Dulong and Petit's equation:  $d\theta/dt = b(c^\theta - 1)$ , page 60. Put  $c^\theta - 1 = x$  and differentiate for  $d\theta$  and  $dx$ . Hence  $dx = c^\theta \log c \cdot d\theta$ ,  $d\theta = dx/c^\theta \log c$ ; and page 213, Case 1.

$$\int \frac{d\theta}{c^\theta - 1} = \int \frac{dx}{x(x+1) \log c}; \therefore bt \log c = \log \frac{x}{x+1} + C; \text{ etc.}$$

(15) Solve Stefan's equation:  $d\theta/dt = a\{(273 + \theta)^4 - 273^4\}$ , page 60. Put  $x = 273 + \theta$  and  $c = 273$ . Hence the given equation can be written  $dx/dt = a(x^4 - c^4) = a(x+c)(x-c)(x^2+c^2)$  which can be solved by Case 3, page 216. Thus,  $at = \frac{1}{4c^3} \left\{ \log \frac{x-c}{x+c} - 2 \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{c} \right\} + c$ .

(16) Solve  $du/dr - u/r = C_1/r^2 - \frac{1}{2}ar^2$ . Substitute  $v = u/r$ ;  $\therefore r dv/dr = du/dr - u/r$ .  $\therefore dv/dr = C_1/r^3 - \frac{1}{2}ar$ ;  $\therefore u/r = C_2 - \frac{1}{2}C_1/r^2 - \frac{1}{8}ar^2$ .

(17) According to the *Glasgow Herald* the speed of H.M.S. *Sapphire* was  $V$  when the engines indicated the horse-power  $P$ . When

$P = 5012,$	$7281,$	$10200,$	$12650;$
$V = 18.47,$	$20.60,$	$22.43,$	$23.63.$

Do these numbers agree with the law  $dP/dV = aP$ , where  $a$  is constant? Ansr. Yes. Hint. On integration, remembering that  $V = 0$  when  $P = 0$ , we get  $\log_{10} P - \log_{10} C = aV$ , where  $C$  is constant. Evaluate the constants as indicated on page 324, we get  $C = 181$ ,  $a = 0.07795$ , etc.

## II.—The equation is homogeneous in $x$ and $y$ .

If the equation be homogeneous in  $x$  and  $y$ , that is to say, if the sum of the exponents of the variables in each term is of the

same degree, a preliminary substitution of  $x = ty$ , or  $y = tx$ , according to convenience, will always enable variables to be separated. The rule for the substitution is to treat the differential which involves the smallest number of terms.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $x + y \cdot dy/dx - 2y = 0$ . Substitute  $y = zx$ ; or  $dy = xdz + zdx$ , and rearrange terms. We get  $(1 - 2z + z^2)dx + xzdz = 0$ ; or  $(1 - z)^2dx + xzdz = 0$ ; and

$$\int \frac{zdz}{(1-z)^2} + \int \frac{dx}{x} = C; \therefore \frac{1}{1-z} + \log(1-z) + \log x = C. (x-y)e^{\frac{z}{1-z}} = C.$$

(2) F. A. H. Schreinemaker (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 36, 413, 1901) in studying the vapour pressure of ternary mixtures used the equation  $dy/dx = my/x + n$ . This becomes homogeneous when  $x = ty$  is substituted. Hence show that  $Cx^m - nx/(m-1) = y$ , where  $C$  is the integration constant.

(3) Show that if  $(y-x)dy + ydx = 0$ ;  $y = Ce^{-x/y}$ .

(4) Show that if  $x^2dy - y^2dx - xydy = 0$ ;  $x = e^{-x/y} + C$ .

(5) Show that if  $(x^2 + y^2)dx = 2xydy$ ;  $x^2 - y^2 = Cx$ .

### III.—The equation is non-homogeneous in $x$ and $y$ .

Non-homogeneous equations in  $x$  and  $y$  can be converted into the homogeneous form by a suitable substitution. The most general type of a non-homogeneous equation of the first degree is,

$$(ax + by + c)dx + (a'x + b'y + c')dy = 0, \quad (2)$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are of the first degree. To convert this into an homogeneous equation, assume that  $x = v + h$ ; and  $y = w + k$ , and substitute in the given equation (2). Thus, we obtain

$$\{av + bw + (ah + bk + c)\}dv + \{a'v + b'w + (a'h + b'k + c')\}dw = 0. \quad (3)$$

Find  $h$  and  $k$  so that  $ah + bk + c = 0$ ;  $a'h + b'k + c' = 0$ .

$$\therefore h = \frac{b'c - bc'}{a'b - ab'}; k = \frac{ac' - a'c}{a'b - ab'}. \quad (4)$$

Substitute these values of  $h$  and  $k$  in (3). The resulting equation

$$(av + bw)dv + (a'v + b'w)dw = 0, \quad (5)$$

is homogeneous and, therefore, may be solved as just indicated.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $(3y - 7x - 7)dx + (7y - 3x - 3)dy = 0$ . Ansr.  $(y - x - 1)^2(y + x + 1)^5 = C$ . Hints. From (2),  $a = -7$ ,  $b = 3$ ,  $c = -7$ ;  $a' = -3$ ,  $b' = 7$ ,  $c' = -3$ . From (4),  $h = -1$ ,  $k = 0$ . Hence, from (3), we get  $3v dv - 7v dv + 7w dw - 3w dw = 0$ . To solve this homogeneous equation, substitute  $w = vt$ , as above, and separate the variables.

$$\therefore 7 \frac{dv}{v} = \frac{3 - 7t}{t^2 - 1} dt; \therefore 7 \int \frac{dv}{v} + \int \frac{2dt}{t-1} + \int \frac{5dt}{t+1} = C.$$

$$\therefore 7 \log v + 2 \log(t-1) + 5 \log(t+1) = C; \text{ or, } v^7(t-1)^2(t+1)^5 = C.$$

But  $x = v + h$ ,  $\therefore v = x + 1$ ;  $y = w + k$ ,  $\therefore y = w$ ;  $\therefore t = w/v = y/(x+1)$ , etc.

$$(2) \text{ If } (2y - x - 1)dy + (2x - y + 1)dx = 0; x^2 - xy + y^2 + x - y = C.$$

*IV.—Non-homogeneous equations in which the constants have the special relation  $ab' = a'b$ .*

If  $a : b = a' : b' = 1 : m$  (say), then  $h$  and  $k$  are indeterminate, since (2) then becomes

$$(ax + by + c)dx + \{m(ax + by) + c'\}dy = 0.$$

The denominators in equations (4) also vanish. In this case put  $z = ax + by$ , and eliminate  $y$ , thus, we obtain,

$$a - b \frac{z + c}{mx + c'} - \frac{dz}{dx} = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

an equation which allows the variables to be separated.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $(2x + 3y - 5)dy + (2x + 3y - 1)dx = 0$ .

$$\text{Ansr. } x + y - 4 \log(2x + 3y + 7) = C.$$

(2) Solve  $(3y + 2x + 4)dx - (4x + 6y + 5)dy = 0$ .

$$\text{Ansr. } 9 \log\{(21y + 14x + 22)\}21(2y - x) = C.$$

When the variables cannot be separated in a satisfactory manner, special artifices must be adopted. We shall find it the simplest plan to adopt the routine method of referring each artifice to the particular class of equation which it is best calculated to solve. These special devices are sometimes far neater and quicker processes of solution than the method just described. We shall follow the conventional  $x$  and  $y$  rather more closely than in the earlier part of this work. The reader will know, by this time, that his  $x$  and  $y$ 's, his  $p$  and  $v$ 's and his  $s$  and  $t$ 's are not to be kept in "water-tight compartments". It is perhaps necessary to make a few general remarks on the nomenclature.

## § 121. What is a Differential Equation?

We have seen that the straight line,

$$y = mx + b, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

fulfils two special conditions: (i) It cuts one of the coordinate axes at a distance  $b$  from the origin; (ii) It makes an angle  $\tan \alpha = m$ , with the  $x$ -axis. By differentiation,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = m. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

This equation has nothing at all to say about the constant  $b$ .

That condition has been eliminated. Equation (2), therefore, represents a straight line fulfilling one condition, namely, that it makes an angle  $\tan^{-1}m$  with the  $x$ -axis. Now substitute (2) in (1), the resulting equation,

$$y = \frac{dy}{dx}x + b, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

in virtue of the constant  $b$ , satisfies only one definite condition, (3), therefore, is the equation of any straight line passing through  $b$ . Nothing is said about the magnitude of the angle  $\tan^{-1}m$ . Differentiate (2). The resulting equation,

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

represents any straight line whatever. The special conditions imposed by the constants  $m$  and  $b$  in (1), have been entirely eliminated. Equation (4) is the most general equation of a straight line possible, for it may be applied to any straight line that can be drawn in a plane.

Let us now find a physical meaning for the differential equation. In § 7, we have seen that the third differential coefficient,  $d^3s/dt^3$  represents "the rate of change of acceleration from moment to moment". Suppose that the acceleration  $d^2s/dt^2$ , of a moving body does not change or vary in any way. It is apparent that the rate of change of a constant or uniform acceleration must be zero. In mathematical language, this is written,

$$d^3s/dt^3 = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

By integration we obtain,

$$d^2s/dt^2 = \text{Constant} = g. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

Equation (6) tells us not only that the acceleration is constant, but it fixes that value to the definite magnitude  $g$  ft. per sec. per sec. Remembering that acceleration measures the rate of change of velocity, and integrating (6), we get,

$$ds/dt = gt + C_1. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

From § 71, we have learnt how to find the meaning of  $C_1$ . Put  $t = 0$ , then  $ds/dt = C_1$ . This means that when we begin to reckon the velocity, the body may have been moving with a definite velocity  $C_1$ . Let  $C_1 = v_0$  ft. per second. Of course if the body started from a position of rest,  $C_1 = 0$ . Now integrate (7) and find the value of  $C_2$  in the result,

$$s = \frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0t + C_2, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

by putting  $t = 0$ . It is thus apparent that  $C_2$  represents the space which the body had traversed when we began to study its motion. Let  $C_2 = s_0$  ft. The resulting equation

$$s = \frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0t + s_0, \quad (9)$$

tells us three different things about the moving body at the instant we began to take its motion into consideration.

1. It had traversed a distance of  $s_0$  ft. To use a sporting phrase, if the body is starting from "scratch,"  $s_0 = 0$ .

2. The body was moving with a velocity of  $v_0$  ft. per second.

3. The velocity was increasing at the *uniform* rate of  $g$  ft. per second per second.

Equation (7) tells us the two latter facts about the moving body; equation (6) only tells us the third fact; equation (5) tells us nothing more than that the acceleration is constant. (5), therefore, is true of the motion of any body moving with a uniform acceleration.

EXAMPLES.—(1) A body falls from rest. Show that it travels 400 ft. in 5 sec. Hint. Use  $g = 32$ .

(2) A body starting with a velocity of 20 ft. per sec. falls in accord with equation (7); what is its velocity after 6 seconds? Ansr. 212 ft.

(3) A body dropped from a balloon hits the ground with a velocity of 384 ft. per sec. How long was it falling? Ansr. 12 seconds.

(4) A particle is projected vertically upwards with a velocity of 100 ft. per sec. Find the height to which it ascends and the time of its ascent. Here  $d^2s/dt^2 = -g$ ; multiply by  $2ds/dt$ , and integrate

$$2\frac{ds}{dt} \cdot \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = \frac{d\left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)^2}{dt} = -2g\frac{ds}{dt}; \therefore \left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)^2 - v_0^2 = -2gs,$$

when the particle has reached its maximum height  $ds/dt = 0$ ; and, therefore,  $s = \frac{1}{2}v_0^2/g = \frac{10 \cdot 0 \cdot 0}{2 \cdot 32}$ ; from (7), since  $C_1 = 100 = v_0$ ,  $t = v_0/g = \frac{100}{32}$ .

(5) If a body falls in the air, experiment shows that the retarding effect of the resisting air is proportional to the square of the velocity of the moving body. Instead of  $g$ , therefore, we must write  $g - bv^2$ , where  $b$  is the variation constant of page 22. For the sake of simplicity, put  $b = g/a^2$  and show that

$$v = a \frac{e^{gt/a} - e^{-gt/a}}{e^{gt/a} + e^{-gt/a}}; \quad s = \frac{a^2}{g} \log \frac{e^{gt/a} + e^{-gt/a}}{2} = \frac{a^2}{g} \log \cosh \frac{gt}{a},$$

since  $v = 0$ , when  $t = 0$ , and  $s = 0$  when  $t = 0$ . Hint. The equation of motion is  $dv/dt = g - bv^2$ .

Similar reasoning holds good from whatever sources we may draw our illustrations. We are, therefore, able to say that a differential equation, freed from constants, is the most general way of expressing a natural law.

Any equation can be freed from its constants by combining it

with the various equations obtained by differentiation of the given equation as many times as there are constants. The operation is called **elimination**. Elimination enables us to discard the accidental features associated with any natural phenomenon and to retain the essential or general characteristics. It is, therefore, possible to study a theory by itself without the attention being distracted by experimental minutiae. In a great theoretical work like "Maxwell" or "Heaviside," the differential equation is ubiquitous, experiment a rarity. And this not because experiments are unimportant, but because, as Heaviside puts it, they are fundamental, the foundations being always hidden from view in well-constructed buildings.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Eliminate the arbitrary constants  $a$  and  $b$ , from the relation  $y = ax + bx^2$ . Differentiate twice; evaluate  $a$  and  $b$ ; and substitute the results in the original equation. The result,

$$x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2x \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 0,$$

is quite free from the arbitrary restrictions imposed in virtue of the presence of the constants  $a$  and  $b$  in the original equation.

(2) Eliminate  $m$  from  $y^2 = 4mx$ . Ansr.  $y = 2x \cdot dy/dx$ .

(3) Eliminate  $a$  and  $b$  from  $y = a \cos x + b \sin x$ . Ansr.  $d^2y/dx^2 + y = 0$ .

We always *assume* that every differential equation has been obtained by the elimination of constants from a given equation called the **primitive**. In practical work we are not so much concerned with the building up of a differential equation by the elimination of constants from the primitive, as with the reverse operation of finding the primitive from which the differential equation has been derived. In other words, we have to find some relation between the variables which will satisfy the differential equation. Given an expression involving  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $dx/dy$ ,  $d^2x/dy^2$ , ..., to find an equation containing only  $x$ ,  $y$  and constants which can be reconverted into the original equation by the elimination of the constants.

This relation between the variables and constants which satisfies the given differential equation is called a **general solution**, or a **complete solution**, or a **complete integral** of the differential equation. A solution obtained by giving particular values to the arbitrary constants of the complete solution is a **particular solution**. Thus  $y = mx$  is a complete solution of  $y = x \cdot dy/dx$ ;  $y = x \tan 45^\circ$ , is a particular solution.

A differential equation is **ordinary** or **partial**, according as there is one or more than one independent variables present. Ordinary differential equations will be treated first. Equations like (2) and (3) above are said to be of the first order, because the highest derivative present is of the first order. For a similar reason (4) and (6) are of the second order, (5) of the third order. The **order of a differential equation**, therefore, is fixed by that of the highest differential coefficient it contains. The **degree of a differential equation** is the highest power of the highest order of of differential coefficient it contains. This equation is of the second order and first degree :

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + k\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^3 + \mu x^4 = 0.$$

It is not difficult to show that *the complete integral of a differential equation of the  $n$ th order, contains  $n$ , and no more than  $n$ , arbitrary constants*. As the reader acquires experience in the representation of natural processes by means of differential equations, he will find that the integration *must* provide a sufficient number of undetermined constants to define the initial conditions of the natural process symbolized by the differential equation. The complete solution must provide so many particular solutions (containing no undetermined constants) as there are definite conditions involved in the problem. For instance, equation (5), page 375, is of the third order, and the complete solution, equation (9), requires three initial conditions,  $g$ ,  $s_0$ ,  $v_0$  to be determined. Similarly, the solution of equation (4), page 375, requires two initial conditions,  $m$  and  $b$ , in order to fix the line.

## § 122. Exact Differential Equations of the First Order.

The reason many differential equations are so difficult to solve is due to the fact that they have been formed by the elimination of constants as well as by the elision of some common factor from the primitive. Such an equation, therefore, does not actually represent the complete or total differential of the original equation or primitive. The equation is then said to be inexact. On the other hand, an **exact differential equation** is one that has been obtained by the differentiation of a function of  $x$  and  $y$  and performing no other operation involving  $x$  and  $y$ .

Easy tests have been described, on page 77, to determine

whether any given differential equation is exact or inexact. It was pointed out that the differential equation,

$$M \cdot dx + N \cdot dy = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

is the direct result of the differentiation of any function  $u$ , provided,

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

This last result was called "the criterion of integrability," because, if an equation satisfies the test, the integration can be readily performed by a direct process. This is not meant to imply that only such equations can be integrated as satisfy the test, for many equations which do not satisfy the test can be solved in other ways.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Apply the test to the equations,  $ydx + xdy = 0$ , and  $ydx - xdy = 0$ . In the former,  $M = y$ ,  $N = x$ ;  $\therefore \partial M/\partial y = 1$ ,  $\partial N/\partial x = 1$ ;  $\therefore \partial M/\partial y = \partial N/\partial x$ . The test is, therefore, satisfied and the equation is exact. In the other equation,  $M = y$ ,  $N = -x$ ,  $\therefore \partial M/\partial y = 1$ ,  $\partial N/\partial x = -1$ . This does not satisfy the test. In consequence, the equation cannot be solved by the method for exact differential equations.

(2) Show that  $(a^2y + x^2)dx + (b^3 + a^2x)dy = 0$ , is exact.

(3) Is the equation,  $(x + 2y)xdx + (x^2 - y^2)dy = 0$ , exact?  $M = x(x + 2y)$ ,  $N = x^2 - y^2$ ;  $\therefore \partial M/\partial y = 2x$ ,  $\partial N/\partial x = 2x$ . The condition is satisfied, the equation is exact.

(4) Show that  $(\sin y + y \cos x)dx + (\sin x + x \cos y)dy = 0$ , is exact.

### *I. Equations which satisfy the criterion of integrability.*

We must remember that  $M$  is the differential coefficient of  $u$  with respect to  $x$ ,  $y$  being constant, and  $N$  is the differential coefficient of  $u$  with respect to  $y$ ,  $x$  being constant. Hence we may integrate  $Mdx$  on the supposition that  $y$  is constant and then treat  $Ndy$  as if  $x$  were a constant. The complete solution of the whole equation is obtained by equating the sum of these two integrals to an undetermined constant. The complete integral is

$$u = C. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

EXAMPLE.—Integrate  $x(x + 2y)dx + (x^2 - y^2)dy = 0$ , from the preceding set of examples. Since the equation is exact,  $M = x(x + 2y)$ ;  $N = x^2 - y^2$ ;  $\therefore \int Mdx = \int x(x + 2y)dx = \frac{1}{2}x^3 + x^2y = Y$ , where  $Y$  is the integration constant which may, or may not, contain  $y$ , because  $y$  has here been regarded as a constant. Now the result of differentiating  $\frac{1}{2}x^3 + x^2y = Y$ , should be the original equation. On trial,  $x^2dx + 2xydx + x^2dy = dY$ . On comparison with the original equation, it is apparent that  $dY = y^2dy$ ;  $\therefore Y = \frac{1}{3}y^3 + C$ . Substitute this in the preceding result. The complete solution is, therefore,  $\frac{1}{2}x^3 + x^2y - \frac{1}{3}y^3 = C$ . The method detailed in this example can be put into a more practical shape.



To integrate an exact differential equation of the type

$$M \cdot dx + N \cdot dy = 0,$$

first find  $\int M \cdot dx$  on the assumption that  $y$  is constant and substitute the result in

$$\int M dx + \int \left( N - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \int M dx \right) dy = C. \quad (4)$$

*E.g.*, in  $x(x + 2y)dx + (x^2 - y^2)dy = 0$ , it is obvious that  $\int M dx$  is  $\frac{1}{3}x^3 + x^2y$ , and we may write down at once

$$\frac{1}{3}x^3 + x^2y + \int \left\{ x^2 - y^2 - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{1}{3}x^3 + x^2y \right) \right\} dy = C.$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{3}x^3 + x^2y + \int (x^2 - y^2 - x^2) dy = C; \text{ or, } \frac{1}{3}x^3 + x^2y - \frac{1}{3}y^3 = C.$$

If we had wished we could have used

$$\int N dy + \int \left( M - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int N dy \right) dx = C,$$

in place of (4), and integrated  $\int N \cdot dy$  on the assumption that  $x$  is constant.

In practice it is often convenient to modify this procedure. If the equation satisfies the criterion of integrability, we can easily pick out terms which make  $Mdx + Ndy = 0$ , and get

$$Mdx + Y; \text{ and } Ndy + X,$$

where  $Y$  cannot contain  $x$  and  $X$  cannot contain  $y$ . Hence if we can find  $Mdy$  and  $Ndx$ , the functions  $X$  and  $Y$  will be determined. In the above equation, the only terms containing  $x$  and  $y$  are  $2xydx + x^2dy$ , which obviously have been derived from  $x^2y$ . Hence integration of these and the omitted terms gives the above result.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Solve  $(x^2 - 4xy - 2y^2)dx + (y^2 - 4xy - 2x^2)dy = 0$ . Pick out terms in  $x$  and  $y$ , we get  $-(4xy + 2y^2)dx - (4xy + 2x^2)dy = 0$ . Integrate.  $\therefore -2x^2y - 2xy^2 = \text{constant}$ . Pick out the omitted terms and integrate for the complete solution. We get,

$$\int x^2 dx + \int y^2 dy - 2x^2y - 2xy^2 = C; \therefore x^3 - 6x^2y - 6xy^2 + y^3 = \text{constant}.$$

(2) Show that the solution of  $(a^2y + x^2)dx + (b^3 + a^2x)dy = 0$ , furnishes the relation  $a^2xy + b^3y + \frac{1}{3}x^3 = C$ . Use (4).

(3) Solve  $(x^2 - y^2)dx - 2xydy = 0$ . Ansr.  $\frac{1}{3}x^2 - y^2 = C/x$ . Use (4).

## II. Equations which do not satisfy the criterion of integrability.

As just pointed out, the reason any differential equation does not satisfy the criterion of exactness, is because the "integrating factor" has been cancelled out during the genesis of the equation from its primitive. If, therefore, the equation

$$Mdx + Ndy = 0,$$

does not satisfy the criterion of integrability, it will do so when the factor, previously divided out, is restored. Thus, the preceding equation is made exact by multiplying through with the integrating factor  $\mu$ . Hence,

$$\mu(Mdx + Ndy) = 0,$$

satisfies the criterion of exactness, and the solution can be obtained as described above.

### § 123. How to find Integrating Factors.

Sometimes integrating factors are so simple that they can be detected by simple inspection.

EXAMPLES.—(1)  $ydx - xdy = 0$  is inexact. It becomes exact by multiplication with either  $x^{-2}$ ,  $x^{-1} \cdot y^{-1}$ , or  $y^{-2}$ .

(2) In  $(y - x)dy + ydx = 0$ , the term containing  $ydx - xdy$  is not exact, but becomes so when multiplied as in the preceding example.

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{y} - \frac{xdy - ydx}{y^2} = 0; \text{ or, } \log y - \frac{x}{y} = C.$$

We have already established, in § 26, that an integrating factor always exists which will make the equation

$$Mdx + Ndy = 0,$$

an exact differential. Moreover, there is also an infinite number of such factors, for if the equation is made exact when multiplied by  $\mu$ , it will remain exact when multiplied by any function of  $\mu$ . The different integrating factors correspond to the various forms in which the solution of the equation may present itself. For instance, the integrating factor  $x^{-1}y^{-1}$ , of  $ydx + xdy = 0$ , corresponds with the solution  $\log x + \log y = C$ . The factor  $y^{-2}$  corresponds with the solution  $xy = C'$ . Unfortunately, it is of no assistance to know that every differential equation has an infinite number of integrating factors. No general practical method is known for finding them; and the reader must consult some special treatise for the general theorems concerning the properties of integrating factors. Here are four elementary rules applicable to special cases.

Rule I. Since

$$d(x^m y^n) = x^{m-1} y^{n-1} (mydx + nxdy),$$

an expression of the type  $mydx + nxdy = 0$ , has an integrating factor  $x^{m-1} y^{n-1}$ ; or, the expression

$$x^{\alpha} y^{\beta} (mydx + nxdy) = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

has an integrating factor

$$x^{m-1} - ay^{n-1} - \beta,$$

or more generally still,

$$x^{km-1} - ay^{kn-1} - \beta, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

where  $k$  may have any value whatever.

**EXAMPLE.**—Find an integrating factor of  $ydx - xdy = 0$ . Here,  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\beta = 0$ ,  $m = 1$ ,  $n = -1 \therefore y^{-2}$  is an integrating factor of the given equation.

If the expression can be written

$$x^\alpha y^\beta (mydx + nxdy) + x'^\alpha y'^\beta (m'ydx + n'xdy) = 0, \quad (3)$$

the integrating factor can be readily obtained, for

$$x^{km-1} - ay^{kn-1} - \beta; \text{ and } x^{k'm'-1} - a'y^{k'n'-1} - \beta',$$

are integrating factors of the first and second members respectively.

In order that these factors may be identical,

$$km - 1 - \alpha = k'm' - 1 - \alpha'; \quad kn - 1 - \beta = k'n' - 1 - \beta'.$$

Values of  $k$  and  $k'$  can be obtained to satisfy these two conditions by solving these two equations. Thus,

$$k = \frac{n'(\alpha - \alpha') - m'(\beta - \beta')}{mn' - m'n}; \quad k' = \frac{n(\alpha - \alpha') - m(\beta - \beta')}{mn' - m'n}. \quad (4)$$

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Solve  $y^3(ydx - 2xdy) + x^4(2ydx + xdy) = 0$ . Hints. Show that  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\beta = 3$ ,  $m = 1$ ,  $n = -2$ ;  $\alpha' = 4$ ,  $\beta' = 0$ ,  $m' = 2$ ,  $n' = 1$ ;  $\therefore x^{k-1}y^{-2k-4}$  is an integrating factor of the first,  $x^{2k'-5}y^{k'-1}$  of the second member. Hence, from (4),  $k = -2$ ,  $k' = 1$ ,  $\therefore x^{-3}$  is an integrating factor of the whole expression. Multiply through and integrate for  $2x^4y - y^4 = Cx^2$ .

(2) Solve  $(y^3 - 2yx^2)dx + (2xy^2 - x^3)dy = 0$ . Ansr.  $x^2y^2(y^2 - x^2) = C$ . Integrating factor deduced after rearranging the equation is  $xy$ .

**Rule II.** If the equation is homogeneous and of the form:  $Mdx + Ndy = 0$ , then  $(Mx + Ny)^{-1}$  is an integrating factor.

Let the expression

$$Mdx + Ndy = 0$$

be of the  $m$ th degree and  $\mu$  an integrating factor of the  $n$ th degree,

$$\therefore \mu Mdx + \mu Ndy = du, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

is of the  $(m+n)$ th degree, and the integral  $u$  is of the  $(m+n+1)$ th degree. By Euler's theorem, § 23,

$$\therefore \mu Mx + \mu Ny = (m+n+1)u. \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

Divide (5) by (6),

$$\frac{Mdx + Ndy}{Mx + Ny} = \frac{1}{m+n+1} \cdot \frac{du}{u}.$$

The right side of this equation is a complete differential, conse-

quently, the left side is also a complete differential. Therefore, the factor  $(Mx + Ny)^{-1}$  has made  $Mdx + Ndy = 0$  an exact differential equation.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that  $(x^3y - xy^3)^{-1}$  is an integrating factor of  $(x^2y + y^3)dx - 2xy^2dy = 0$ .

(2) Show that  $1/(x^2 - nyx + y^2)$  is an integrating factor of  $ydy + (x - ny)dx = 0$ .

The method, of course, cannot be used if  $Mx + Ny$  is equal to zero. In this case, we may write  $y = Cx$ , a solution.

**Rule III.** *If the equation is homogeneous and of the form.*

$$f_1(x, y)ydx + f_2(x, y)x dy = 0,$$

*then  $(Mx - Ny)^{-1}$  is an integrating factor.*

EXAMPLE.—Solve  $(1 + xy)ydx + (1 - xy)x dy = 0$ . Hint. Show that the integrating factor is  $1/2x^2y^2$ . Divide out  $\frac{1}{2}$ .  $\therefore \int Mdx = -1/xy + \log x$ . Ansr.

$$x = Cye - \frac{x}{y}.$$

If  $Mx - Ny = 0$ , the method fails and  $xy = C$  is then a solution of the equation. E.g.,  $(1 + xy)ydx + (1 + xy)x dy = 0$ .

**Rule IV.** *If  $\frac{1}{N}\left(\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}\right)$  is a function of  $x$  only,  $e^{\int f(x)dx}$  is an integrating factor. Or, if  $\frac{1}{M}\left(\frac{\partial N}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial M}{\partial y}\right) = f(y)$ , then  $e^{\int f(y)dy}$  is an integrating factor. These are important results.*

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $(x^3 + y^3)dx - 2xydy = 0$ . Ansr.  $x^2 - y^2 = Cx$ . Hint. Show  $f(x) = -2x^{-1}$ . The integrating factor is  $e^{-\int 2x^{-1}dx} = e^{-2\log x} = x^{-2}$ . Prove that this is an integrating factor, and solve as in the preceding section.

(2) Solve  $(y^4 + 2y)dx + (xy^3 + 2y^4 - 4x)dy = 0$ . Ansr.  $xy^3 + y^4 + 2x = Cy^2$ .

We may now illustrate this rule for a special case, as we shall want the result later on. The steps will serve to recall some of the principles established in some earlier chapters. Let

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + Py = Q, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

where  $P$  and  $Q$  are either constants or functions of  $x$ . Let  $\mu$  be an integrating factor which makes

$$dy + (Py - Q)dx = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

an exact differential.

$$\therefore \mu dy + \mu(Py - Q)dx \equiv Ndy + Mdx.$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial x}; \quad \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = (Py - Q)\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial y} + P\mu. \quad \therefore \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial x} = (Py - Q)\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial y} + P\mu.$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial x}dx = (Py - Q)\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial y}dx + P\mu dx = -\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial y}dy + P\mu dx.$$

$\therefore \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial y} dy = d\mu = P\mu dx. \therefore P = \frac{1}{\mu} \frac{d\mu}{dx}; \therefore \int P dx = \log \mu;$   
 and since  $\log e = 1$ ,  $(\int P dx) \log e = \log \mu$ ; consequently  
 $\therefore \mu = e^{\int P dx}.$  . . . . . (9)  
 is the integrating factor of the given equation (7).

### § 124. Physical Meaning of Exact Differentials.

Let  $AP$  (Fig. 144) be the path of a particle under the influence of a force  $F$  making an angle  $\theta$  with the tangent  $PT$  of the curve at the point  $P(x, y)$ . Let  $W$  denote the work done by the particle in passing from the fixed point  $A(a, b)$  to its present position  $P(x, y)$ . Let the length  $AP$  be  $s$ . The work,  $dW$ , done by the particle in travelling a distance  $ds$  will now be

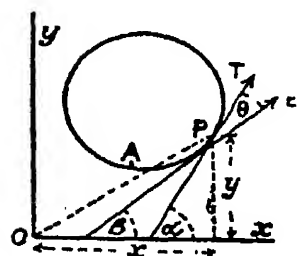


FIG. 144.

$$dW = F \cdot \cos \theta \cdot ds. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

Let  $PT$  and  $PF$  respectively make angles  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  with the  $x$ -axis. Hence, as on page 126,  $dx/ds = \cos \alpha$ ;  $dy/ds = \sin \alpha$ ;  $\therefore \theta = \alpha - \beta$ .

$\therefore F \cos \theta = F \cos (\alpha - \beta) = F \cos \alpha \cdot \cos \beta + F \sin \alpha \cdot \sin \beta$ ,  
 by a well-known trigonometrical transformation (24) page 612.

$$\therefore F \cos \theta = F \cos \beta \frac{dx}{ds} + F \sin \beta \frac{dy}{ds} = X \frac{dx}{ds} + Y \frac{dy}{ds}, \quad (2)$$

where  $X$  is put for  $F \cos \beta$ , and  $Y$  for  $F \sin \beta$ ;  $X$  and  $Y$  are obviously the two components of the force parallel with the coordinate axes. From (1),

$$dW = \left( X \frac{dx}{ds} + Y \frac{dy}{ds} \right) ds. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

*I. Let  $Xdx + Ydy$  be a complete differential.*

Let us assume that  $Xdx + Ydy$  is a complete differential of the function  $u = f(x, y)$ . Hence

$$dW = \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{ds} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{ds} \right) ds = du, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

by partial differentiation. In order to fix our ideas, let  $u = \tan^{-1}(y/x)$  Fig. 144. Hence, Ex. (5), page 49,

$$du = \frac{x}{r^2} dy - \frac{y}{r^2} dx,$$

where  $r^2$  is put in place of  $x^2 + y^2$ . From (4),

$$\frac{dW}{ds} = \left( \frac{x}{r^2} \cdot \frac{dy}{ds} - \frac{y}{r^2} \cdot \frac{dx}{ds} \right) = \frac{du}{ds}.$$

The rate  $dW/ds$  at which the work is performed by the particle changes as it moves along the curve and is equal to the rate,  $du/ds$ , at which the function  $f(x, y)$  changes. Any change in  $W$  is accompanied by a corresponding change in the value of  $u$ . Hence, as the particle passes from  $A$  to  $P$ , the work performed will be

$$dW = \frac{xdy - ydx}{r^2} = d \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x} = du;$$

and by integration,

$$W = u + \text{constant}.$$

This means that the work done by the particle in passing from a fixed point  $A$  to another point  $P(x, y)$  depends only upon the value of  $u$ , and  $u$  is a function of the coordinates,  $x$  and  $y$ , of the point  $P$ .

It will be obvious that if the particle moves along a closed curve the work done will be zero. If the origin  $O$  lies within the closed curve,  $u$  will increase by  $2\pi$  when  $P$  has travelled round the curve. In that case the work done is not zero. The function  $u$  is then a multi-valued function.

EXAMPLE.—If  $X = y$ , and  $Y = x$ ,  $dW = (xdx + ydy) = d(xy)$ ; or, by integration  $W = xy + C$ . We do not need to know the equation of the path. The work done is simply a function of the coordinates of the end state. The constant  $C$  serves to define the initial position of the point  $A(a, b)$ .

The first law of thermodynamics states that when a quantity of heat,  $dQ$ , is added to a substance, one part of the heat is spent in changing the internal energy,  $dU$ , of the substance and another part,  $dW$ , is spent in doing work against external forces. In symbols,

$$dQ = dU + dW.$$

In the special case, when that work is expansion against atmospheric pressure,  $dW = p \cdot dv$ . Now let the substance pass from any state  $A$  to another state  $B$  (Fig. 145). The internal energy of the substance in the state  $B$  is completely determined by the coordinates of that point, because  $U$  is quite independent of the nature of the transformation from the state  $A$  to the state  $B$ . It makes no difference to the magnitude of  $U$  whether that path has been *via*  $APB$  or  $AQB$ . In this case  $U$  is completely defined by the coordinates of the point corresponding to any given state. In other words  $dU$  is a complete differential.

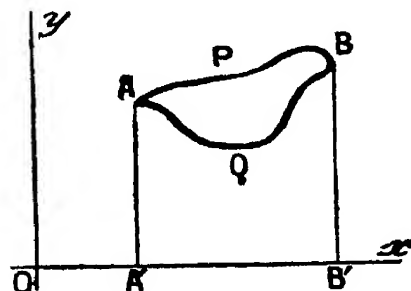


FIG. 145.

On the other hand, the external work done during the transformation from the one state to another, depends not only on the initial and final states of the substance, but also on the nature of the path described in passing from the state  $A$  to the state  $B$ . For example, the substance may perform the work represented by the area  $AQBB'A'$  or by the area  $APBB'A'$ , in its passage from the state  $A$  to the state  $B$ . In fact the total work done in the passage from  $A$  to  $B$  and back again, is represented by the area  $APBQ$ . In order to know the work done during the passage from the state  $A$  to the state  $B$ , it is not only necessary to know the initial and final states of the substance as defined by the coordinates of the points  $A$  and  $B$ , but we must know the nature of the path from the one state to the other.

Similarly, the quantity of heat supplied to the body in passing from one state to the other, not only depends on the initial and final states of the substance, but also on the nature of the transformation. All this is implied when it is said that " $dW$  and  $dQ$  are not perfect differentials".  $dW$  and  $dQ$  can be made into complete differentials by multiplying through with the integrating factor  $\mu$ . The integrating factor is proved in thermodynamics to be equivalent to the so-called *Carnot's function*. To indicate that  $dW$  and  $dQ$  are not perfect differentials, some writers superscribe a comma to the top right-hand corner of the differential sign. The above equation would then be written,

$$d'Q = dU + d'W.$$

II. Let  $Xdx + Ydy$  be an incomplete differential.

Now suppose that  $Xdx + Ydy$  is not a complete differential. In that case, we cannot write  $X = \partial u / \partial x$  and  $Y = \partial u / \partial y$  as in (3) and (4). But from equation (3), by a rearrangement of the terms, we get

$$dW = \left( X + Y \frac{dy}{dx} \right) dx. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

And now, to find the work done by the particle in passing from  $A$  to  $P$ , we must be able to express  $y$  in terms of  $x$  by using the equation of the path. Let  $X = -y$ , and  $Y = x$ ; let the equation of the path be  $y = ax^2$ ,  $\therefore dy/dx = 2ax$ . From (5)

$$dW = (-y + 2ax^2)dx = (-ax^2 + 2ax^2)dx = \frac{1}{2}ax^3 + C.$$

It is now quite clear that the value of  $X + Ydy/dx$  will be different

## § 125. HOW TO SOLVE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS.

for different paths. For example, if  $y = ax^3$ ,

$$dW = (ax^3 + 3ax^3)dx = ax^4.$$

So that the work done depends upon the coordinates of the point  $P$  as well as upon the equation of the path.

EXAMPLE.—If  $dU = dQ - pdv$ , and  $dU$  is a complete differential, show that  $dQ$  is not a complete differential. Hint. We know, page 80, that

$$dQ = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v dT + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v}\right)_T dv; \therefore dU = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right)_v dT + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v} - p\right)_T dv. \quad (6)$$

If  $U$  is a complete differential,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial T}\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial v} - p\right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial v}\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial T}\right); \therefore \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial T \partial v} = \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial v \partial T} + \frac{\partial p}{\partial T}. \quad (7)$$

From (6), if  $dQ$  is a complete differential,

$$\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial v \partial T} = \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial T \partial v}.$$

Hence (6) and (7) cannot both be true.

The question is discussed from another point of view in *Technics*, 1, 615, 1904.

## § 125. Linear Differential Equations of the First Order.

A linear differential equation of the first order involves only the first power of the dependent variable  $y$  and of its first differential coefficients. The general type, sometimes called **Leibnitz' equation**, is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + Py = Q, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where  $P$  and  $Q$  may be functions of  $x$  and explicitly independent of  $y$ , or constants. We have just proved that  $e^{\int P dx}$  is an integrating factor of (1), therefore

$$e^{\int P dx}(dy + Pydx) = e^{\int P dx}Qdx,$$

is an exact differential equation. Consequently, the general solution is,

$$ye^{\int P dx} = \int e^{\int P dx}Qdx + C; \text{ or, } y = e^{-\int P dx} \int e^{\int P dx}Qdx + Ce^{-\int P dx}. \quad (2)$$

The linear equation is one of the most important in applied mathematics. In particular cases the integrating factor may assume a very simple form.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $(1 + x^2)dy = (m + xy)dx$ . Reduce to the form (1) and we obtain

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{x}{1 + x^2}y = \frac{m}{1 + x^2}.$$

BB \*



$$\therefore \int P dx = - \int \frac{x dx}{1+x^2} = -\frac{1}{2} \log(1+x^2) = -\log \sqrt{1+x^2}.$$

Remembering  $\log 1 = 0$ ,  $\log e = 1$ , the integrating factor is evidently,

$$\log e^{\int P dx} = \log 1 - \log \sqrt{1+x^2}; \text{ or } e^{\int P dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}.$$

Multiply the original equation with this integrating factor, and solve the resulting exact equation as § 122, (4), or, better still, by (2) above. The solution:  $y = mx + C \sqrt{1+x^2}$  follows at once.

(2) Ohm's law for a variable current flowing in a circuit with a coefficient of self-induction  $L$  (henries), a resistance  $R$  (ohms), and a current of  $C$  (ampères) and an electromotive force  $E$  (volts), is given by the equation,  $E = RC + LdC/dt$ . This equation has the standard linear form (1). If  $E$  is constant, show that the solution is,  $C = E/R + Be^{-Rt/L}$ , where  $B$  is the arbitrary constant of integration (page 198). Show that  $C$  approximates to  $E/R$  after the current has been flowing some time,  $t$ . Hint for solution. Integrating factor is  $e^{Rt/L}$ .

(3) The equation of motion of a particle subject to a resistance varying directly as the velocity and as some force which is a given function of the time, is  $dv/dt + kv = f(t)$ . Show that  $v = Ce^{-kt} + e^{-kt} \int e^{kt} f(t) dt$ . If the force is gravitational, say  $g$ ,  $v = Ce^{-kt} + g/k$ .

(4) Solve  $xdy + ydx = x^3 dx$ . Integrating factor =  $x$ . Ansr.  $y = \frac{1}{2}x^3 + C/x$ .

(5) We shall want the integral of  $dy/dt + k_2 y = k_2 a(1 - e^{-k_1 t})$  very shortly. The solution follows thus:

$$\begin{aligned} y &= Ce^{-k_2 t} - e^{-k_2 t} \int e^{k_2 t} \{ -k_2 a(1 - e^{-k_1 t}) \} dt; \\ &= Ce^{-k_2 t} + e^{-k_2 t} \{ k_2 a \int e^{k_2 t} - \int e^{(k_2 - k_1)t} \} dt; \\ &= Ce^{-k_2 t} + a - \frac{k_2 a}{k_2 - k_1} e^{-k_1 t}. \end{aligned}$$

(6) We shall also want to solve

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{Ky}{a-x} = \frac{Kx}{a-x};$$

Here

$$e^{\int \frac{K dx}{a-x}} = e^{-K \log(a-x)} = e^{-\log(a-x)^K} = \frac{1}{(a-x)^K}.$$

$$\therefore \frac{y}{(a-x)^K} = C + K \int \frac{x dx}{(a-x)^{K+1}} = C + \frac{x}{(a-x)^K} - K \int \frac{dx}{(a-x)^K}$$

on integrating by parts. Finally, if  $x = 0$ , when  $y = 0$ ,

$$y = C(a-x)^K + a - \frac{K(a-x)}{K-1}; \quad C = \frac{1}{(K-1)a^{K-1}}.$$

Many equations may be transformed into the linear type of equation, by a change in the variable. Thus, in the so-called **Bernoulli's equation**,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + Py = Qy^n. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

Divide by  $y^n$ , multiply by  $(1-n)$  and substitute  $y^{1-n} = v$ , in the result. Thus,

$$\frac{(1-n)}{y^n} \frac{dy}{dx} + (1-n)Py^{1-n} = (1-n)Q,$$

$$\therefore \frac{dv}{dx} + (1-n)Pv = Q(1-n),$$

which is linear in  $v$ . Hence, the solution follows at sight,

$$ve^{(1-n)Pdx} = (1-n) \int Qe^{(1-n)Pdx} dx + C.$$

$$\therefore y^{1-n}e^{(1-n)Pdx} = (1-n) \int Qe^{(1-n)Pdx} dx + C.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $dy/dx + y/x = y^2$ . Substitute  $v = 1/y$ . Integration factor is  $e^{-\int dx/x} = e^{-\log x} = x^{-1}$ . Ansr.  $Cxy - xy \log x = 1$ .

(2) Solve  $dy/dx + x \sin 2y = x^3 \cos^2 y$ . Divide by  $\cos^2 y$ . Put  $\tan y = v$ . The integration factor is  $e^{\int 2x dx}$ , i.e.,  $e^{x^2}$ . Ansr.  $e^{x^2}(\tan y - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}) = C$ . Hint. The steps are  $\sec^2 y \, dy/dx + 2x \tan y = x^3$ ;  $dv/dx + 2xu = x^3$ ; to solve  $ve^{x^2} = \int x^3 e^{x^2} dx + C$ . Put  $x^2 = z$ ,  $\therefore 2x dx = dz$ , and this integral becomes  $\frac{1}{2} \int ze^z dz$ ; or,  $\frac{1}{2}e^z(z-1)$ , (4) page 206, etc.

(3) Here is an instructive differential equation, which Harcourt and Esson encountered during their work on chemical dynamics in 1866.

$$\frac{1}{y^2} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{K}{y} - \frac{K}{x} = 0.$$

I shall give a method of solution in full, so as to revise some preceding work. The equation has the same form as Bernoulli's. Therefore, substitute

$$v = \frac{1}{y}; \text{ i.e., } \frac{dv}{dx} = -\frac{1}{y^2} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx}. \quad \therefore \frac{dv}{dx} - Kv + \frac{K}{x} = 0,$$

an equation linear in  $v$ . The integrating factor is  $e^{\int P dx}$ ; or,  $e^{-Kx}$ ;  $Q$ , in (2),  $= -K/x$ ; therefore, from (2),

$$ve^{-Kx} = - \int \frac{K}{x} e^{-Kx} dx + C.$$

From the method of § 111, page 341,

$$ve^{-Kx} = -K \int \frac{1}{x} \left\{ 1 - (Kx) + \frac{(Kx)^2}{1.2} - \frac{(Kx)^3}{1.2.3} + \dots \right\} dx + C.$$

$$\therefore ve^{-Kx} = -K \int \left\{ \frac{dx}{x} - Kdx + \frac{K^2 x dx}{1.2} - \frac{K^3 x^2 dx}{1.2.3} + \dots \right\} + C.$$

But  $v = 1/y$ . Multiply through with  $ye^{Kx}$ , and integrate.

$$1 = Ke^{Kx} \left\{ C_1 - \log x + Kx - \frac{(Kx)^2}{1.2} + \frac{(Kx)^3}{1.2.3} - \dots \right\} y.$$

We shall require this result on page 437. Other substitutions may convert an equation into the linear form, for instance:

(4) I came across the equation  $dx/dt = k(a-x)(x-y)$ , where  $y = a(1 - e^{-mt})$ , in studying some chemical reactions. Put  $z = 1/(a-x)$ ;  $\therefore dx = -dz/kz^2$ ,  
 $\therefore dz/dt - kze^{-mt} = 1.$

This equation is linear. For the integrating factor note that  $ked t = -ke/m$   $= -u$ , say. Consequently,

$$z = -\frac{1}{m} e^{-u} \int \left( \frac{e^u du}{u} + C \right) = -\frac{e^{-u}}{m} \left( \log u = u \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{u^2}{2!} + \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{u^3}{3!} + \dots + C \right).$$

$z = 0$  when  $t = 0$ ;  $\therefore u = k/m$  when  $t = 0$ . Let  $S$  denote the sum of the series when  $k/m$  is substituted in place of  $u$ , and  $s$  the sum as it stands above. When  $z = 0$ ,  $t = 0$ ,  $C = -S$ .

$$\therefore z = \frac{e^{-u}(S-s)}{m} = \frac{S-s}{me^u}; \therefore u = a - \frac{me^u}{k(S-s)},$$

if  $u$  is less than unity the series is convergent.

(5) J. W. Mellor and L. Bradshaw (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 48, 353, 1904) have for the hydrolysis of cane sugar

$$du/dt + bu = Ab(1 - e^{-k}); \therefore ue^{bt} = Ae^{bt} - be^{(b-k)t}/(b-k) + C.$$

(6) The law of cooling of the sun has been represented by the equation  $dT/dt = aT^3 - bT$ . To solve, divide by  $T^3$ ; put  $T^{-2} = z$ , and hence  $T^{-3}dT = -\frac{1}{2}dz$ ; hence  $dz/dt - 2bz = -2a$ . This is an ordinary linear equation with the solution  $z = a/b + Ce^{2bt}$ . Restore the value of  $z$ . The constant  $C$  can be evaluated in the usual manner.

## § 126. Differential Equations of the First Order and of the First or Higher Degree.—Solution by Differentiation.

**Case i.** *The equation can be split up into factors.* If the differential equation can be resolved into  $n$  factors of the first degree, equate each factor to zero and solve each of the  $n$  equations separately. The  $n$  solutions may be left either distinct, or combined into one.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Solve  $x(dy/dx)^2 = y$ . Resolve into factors of the first degree,  $dy/dx = \pm \sqrt{y/x}$ . Separate the variables and integrate,  $\int x^{-1/2} dx \pm \int y^{-1/2} dy = \pm \sqrt{C}$ , where  $\sqrt{C}$  is the integration constant. Hence  $\sqrt{x} \pm \sqrt{y} = \pm \sqrt{C}$ , which, on rationalization, becomes  $(x - y)^2 - 2C(x + y) + C^2 = 0$ . Geometrically this equation represents a system of parabolic curves each of which touches the axis at a distance  $C$  from the origin. The separate equations of the above solution merely represent different branches of the same parabola.

(2) Solve  $xy(dy/dx)^2 - (x^2 - y^2)dy/dx - xy = 0$ . Ansr.  $xy = C$ , or  $x^2 - y^2 = C$ . Hint. Factors  $(xp + y)(yp - x)$ , where  $p = dy/dx$ . Either  $xp + y = 0$ , or  $yp - x = 0$ , etc.

(3) Solve  $(dy/dx)^2 - 7dy/dx + 12 = 0$ . Ansr.  $y = 4x + C$ , or  $3x + C$ .

**Case ii.** *The equation cannot be resolved into factors, but it can be solved for  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $dy/dx$ , or  $y/x$ .* An equation which cannot be resolved into factors, can often be expressed in terms of  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $dy/dx$ , or  $y/x$ , according to circumstances. The differential coefficient of the one variable with respect to the other may be then obtained by solving for  $dy/dx$  and using the result to eliminate  $dy/dx$  from the given equation.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Solve  $dy/dx + 2xy = x^2 + y^2$ . Since  $(x - y)^2 = x^2 - 2xy + y^2$

$y = x + \sqrt{dy/dx}$ . Put  $p$  in place of  $dy/dx$ . Differentiate, and we get

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{p}} \cdot \frac{dp}{dx}.$$

Separate the variables  $x$  and  $p$ , solve for  $dy/dx$ , and integrate by the method of partial fractions.

$$\therefore dx = \frac{dp}{2\sqrt{p(p-1)}}; \therefore x = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\sqrt{p}-1}{\sqrt{p}+1} + \log C; \sqrt{\frac{dy}{dx}} = \frac{C + e^{2x}}{C - e^{2x}}.$$

On eliminating  $p$  by means of the relation  $y = x + \sqrt{p}$ , we get the answer  $y = x + (C + e^{2x})/(C - e^{2x})$ .

(2) Solve  $x(dy/dx)^2 - 2y(dy/dx) + ax = 0$ . Ansr.  $y = \frac{1}{2}(Cx^2 + a/e)$ . Hint. Substitute for  $p$ . Solve for  $y$  and differentiate. Substitute  $pdx$  for  $dy$ , and clear of fractions. The variables  $p$  and  $x$  can be separated. Integrate  $p = xC$ . Substitute in the given equation for the answer.

(3) Solve  $y(dy/dx)^2 + 2x(dy/dx) - y = 0$ . Ansr.  $y^2 = C(2x + C)$ . Hint. Solve for  $x$ . Differentiate and substitute  $dy/p$  for  $dx$ , and proceed as in example (2).  $yp = C$ , etc.

**Case iii.** *The equation cannot be resolved into factors,  $x$  or  $y$  is absent.* If  $x$  is absent solve for  $dy/dx$  or  $y$  according to convenience; if  $y$  is absent, solve for  $dx/dy$  or  $x$ . Differentiate the result with respect to the absent letter if necessary and solve in the regular way.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $(dy/dx)^2 + x(dy/dx) + 1 = 0$ . For the sake of greater ease, substitute  $p$  for  $dy/dx$ . The given equation thus reduces to

$$-x = p + 1/p. \quad (1)$$

Differentiate with regard to the absent letter  $y$ , thus,

$$-\frac{1}{p} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^2}\right) \frac{dp}{dy}; \text{ or, } -\frac{dy}{dp} = p - \frac{1}{p}; \therefore y = \log p - \frac{1}{2}p^2 + c. \quad (2)$$

Combining (1) and (2), we get the required solution.

(2) Solve  $dy/dx = y + 1/y$ . Ansr.  $y^2 = Ce^{2x} - 1$ .

(3) Solve  $dy/dx = x + 1/x$ . Ansr.  $y = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \log x + C$ .

## § 127. Clairaut's Equation.

The general type of this equation is

$$y = x \frac{dy}{dx} + f\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right); \quad (1)$$

or, writing  $dy/dx = p$ , for the sake of convenience,

$$y = px + f(p). \quad (2)$$

Many equations of the first degree in  $x$  and  $y$  can be reduced to this form by a more or less obvious transformation of the variables, and solved in the following way: Differentiate (2) with respect to  $x$ , and equate the result to zero

$$p = p + x \frac{dp}{dx} + f'(p) \frac{dp}{dx}; \text{ or, } \{x + f'(p)\} \frac{dp}{dx} = 0.$$

Hence, either  $dp/dx = 0$ ; or,  $x + f'(p) = 0$ . If the former,

$$\frac{dp}{dx} = 0; \therefore p = C,$$

where  $C$  is an arbitrary constant. Hence,  $dy = Cdx$ , and the solution of the given equation is

$$y = Cx + f(C).$$

Again,  $p$  in  $x + f'(p)$  may be a solution of the given equation. To find  $p$ , eliminate  $p$  between

$$y = px + f(p), \text{ and } x + f'(p) = 0.$$

The resulting equation between  $x$  and  $y$  also satisfies the given equation. There are thus two classes of solutions to Clairaut's equation.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find both solutions in  $y = px + p^2$ . Ansr.  $Cx + C^2 = y$ ; and  $x^2 + 4y = 0$ .

(2) If  $(y - px)(p - 1) = p$ ; show  $(y - Cx)(C - 1) = C$ ;  $\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{x} = 1$ .

(3) In the velocity equation, Ex. (6), page 388, if  $K = 2$ , put  $dy/dx = p$ , solve for  $y$ , and differentiate the resulting equation,

$$y = x - \frac{a-x}{2}p; \frac{dy}{dx} = p = 1 + \frac{p}{2} - \frac{a-x}{2} \cdot \frac{dp}{dx}; \frac{dx}{a-x} = -\frac{dp}{p-2}.$$

Integrate, and  $-\log(a-x) = -\log(p-2)$ ;  $\therefore a-x = p-2$ , and we obtain  $y = 2x - a - (a-x)^2$ , which is the equation of a parabola  $y_1 = x_1^2$ , if we substitute  $x = a+1+x_1$ ;  $y = a+1-y_1$ .

After working out the above examples, read over § 67, page 182.

### § 128. Singular Solutions.

Clairaut's equation introduces a new idea. Hitherto we have assumed that whenever a function of  $x$  and  $y$  satisfies an equation, that function, plus an arbitrary constant, represents the complete or general solution. We now find that a function of  $x$  and  $y$  can sometimes be found to satisfy the given equation, which, unlike the particular solution, is not included in the general solution. This function must be considered a solution, because it satisfies the given equation. But the existence of such a solution is quite an accidental property confined to special equations, hence their cognomen, **singular solutions**. Take the equation

$$y = \frac{dy}{dx}x + \frac{a}{\frac{dy}{dx}}; \text{ or, } y = px + \frac{a}{p}. \quad (1)$$

Remembering that  $p$  has been written in place of  $dy/dx$ , differentiate with respect to  $x$ , we get, on rearranging terms,

$$\left(x - \frac{a}{p^2}\right) \frac{dp}{dx} = 0,$$

where either  $x - a/p^2 = 0$ ; or,  $dp/dx = 0$ . If the latter,

$$p = C; \text{ or, } y = Cx + a/C; \quad (2)$$

and if the former,  $p = \sqrt{a/x}$ , which, when substituted in (1), gives the solution,

$$y^2 = 4ax. \quad (3)$$

This is not included in the general solution, but yet it satisfies the given equation. Hence, (3) is the singular solution of (1). Equation (2), the complete solution of (1), has been shown to represent a system of straight lines which differ only in the value of the arbitrary constant  $C$ ; equation (3), containing no arbitrary constant, is an equation to the common parabola. A point moving on this parabola has, at any instant, the same value of  $dy/dx$  as if it were moving on the tangent of the parabola, or on one of the straight lines of equation (2). *The singular solution of a differential equation is geometrically equivalent to the envelope of the family of curves represented by the general solution.* The singular solution is distinguished from the particular solution, in that the latter is contained in the general solution, the former is not.

Again referring to Fig. 96, it will be noticed that for any point on the envelope, there are two equal values of  $p$  or  $dy/dx$ , one for the parabola, one for the straight line.

In order that the quadratic

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0,$$

may have equal roots, it is necessary (page 354) that

$$b^2 = 4ac; \text{ or, } b^2 - 4ac = 0. \quad (4)$$

This relation is called the **discriminant**. From (1), since

$$y = px + \frac{a}{p}; \therefore xp^2 - yp + a = 0. \quad (5)$$

In order that equation (5) may have equal roots,

$$y^2 = 4ax,$$

as in (4). This relation is the locus of all points for which two values of  $p$  become equal, hence it is called the  **$p$ -discriminant** of (1).

In the same way if  $C$  be regarded as variable in the general solution (2),

$$y = Cx + \frac{a}{C}; \text{ or, } xC^2 - yC + a = 0.$$

The condition for equal roots, is that

$$y^2 = 4ax,$$

which is the locus of all points for which the value of  $C$  is the same. It is called the **C-discriminant**.

Before applying these ideas to special cases, we may note that the envelope locus may be a single curve (Fig. 96) or several (Fig. 97). For an exhaustive discussion of the properties of these discriminant relations, I must refer the reader to the text-books on the subject, or to M. J. M. Hill, "On the Locus of Singular Points and Lines," *Phil. Trans.*, 1892. To summarize:

1. The **envelope locus** satisfies the original equation but is not included in the general solution (see  $xx'$ , Fig. 146).

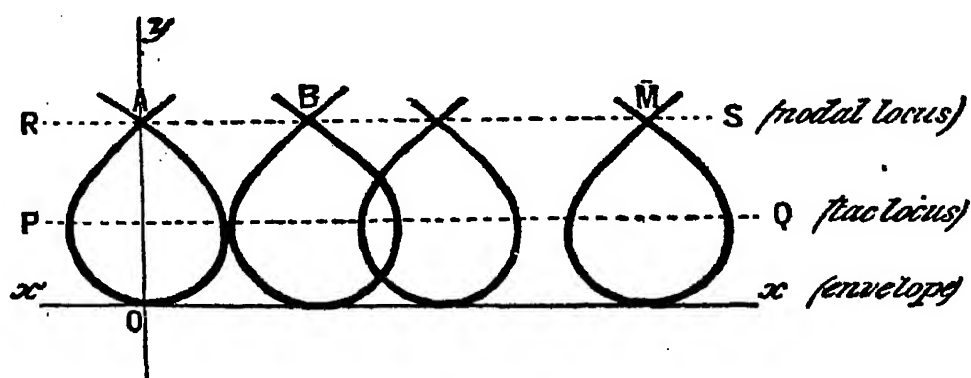


FIG. 146.—Nodal and Tac Loci.

2. The **tac locus** is the locus passing through the several points where two non-consecutive members of a family of curves touch. Such a locus is represented by the lines  $AB$  (Fig. 97),  $PQ$  (Fig. 146). The tac locus does not satisfy the original equation, it appears in the  $p$ -discriminant, but not in the  $C$ -discriminant.

3. The **node locus** is the locus passing through the different points where each curve of a given family crosses itself (the point of intersection—node—may be double, triple, etc.). The node locus does not satisfy the original equation, it appears in the

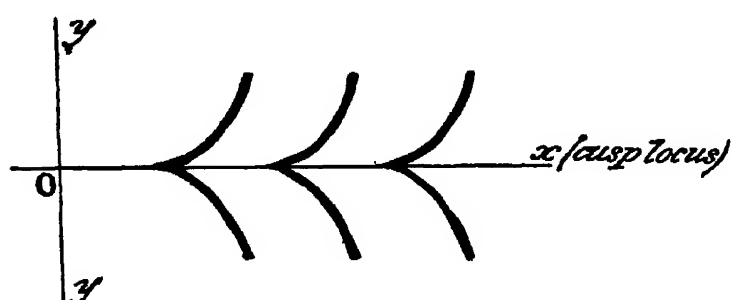


FIG. 147.—Cusp Locus.

$C$ -discriminant but not in the  $p$ -discriminant.  $RS$  (Fig. 146) is a nodal locus passing through the nodes  $A, \dots, B, \dots, C, \dots, M \dots$

4. The **cusp locus** passes through all the cusps (page 169) formed

by the members of a family of curves. The cusp locus does not satisfy the original equation, it appears in the  $p$ - and in the  $C$ -discriminants. It is the line  $Ox$  in Fig. 147. Sometimes the nodal or cusp loci coincide with the envelope locus.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the singular solutions and the nature of the other loci in the following equations: (1)  $xp^2 - 2yp + ax = 0$ . For equal roots  $y^2 = ax^2$ . This satisfies the original equation and is not included in the general solution:  $x^2 - 2Cy + C^2 = 0$ .  $y^2 = ax^2$  is thus the singular solution.

(2)  $4xp^2 = (3x - a)^2$ . General solution:  $(y + C)^2 = x(x - a)^2$ . For equal roots in  $p$ ,  $4x(3x - a)^2 = 0$ , or  $x(3x - a)^2 = 0$  ( $p$ -discriminant). For equal roots in  $C$ , differentiate the general solution with respect to  $C$ . Therefore  $(x + C)dx/dC = 0$ , or  $C = -x$ .  $\therefore x(x - a)^2 = 0$  ( $C$ -discriminant) is the condition to be fulfilled when the  $C$ -discriminant has equal roots.  $x = 0$  is common to the two discriminants and satisfies the original equation (singular solution);  $x = a$  satisfies the  $C$ -discriminant but not the  $p$ -discriminant and, since it is not a solution of the original equation,  $x = a$  represents the node locus;  $x = \frac{1}{3}a$  satisfies the  $p$ - but not the  $C$ -discriminant nor the original equation (tac locus).

(3)  $p^2 + 2xp - y = 0$ . General solution:  $(2x^3 + 3xy + C)^2 = 4(x^2 + y)^3$ ;  $p$ -discriminant:  $x^2 + y = 0$ ;  $C$ -discriminant:  $(x^2 + y)^3 = 0$ . The original equation is not satisfied by either of these equations and, therefore, there is no singular solution. Since  $(x^2 + y)$  appears in both discriminants, it represents a cusp locus.

(4) Show that the complete solution of the equation  $y^2(p^2 + 1) = a^2$ , is  $y^2 + (x - C)^2 = a^2$ ; that there are two singular solutions,  $y = \pm a$ ; that there is a tac locus on the  $x$ -axis for  $y = 0$  (Fig. 97, page 183).

**A trajectory** is a curve which cuts another system of curves at a constant angle. If this angle is  $90^\circ$  the curve is an **orthogonal trajectory**.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Let  $xy = C$  be a system of rectangular hyperbolas, to find the orthogonal trajectory, first eliminate  $C$  by differentiation with respect to  $x$ , thus we obtain,  $xdy/dx + y = 0$ . If two curves are at right angles ( $\frac{1}{2}\pi = 90^\circ$ ), then from (17), § 32,  $\frac{1}{2}\pi = (\alpha' - \alpha)$ , where  $\alpha, \alpha'$  are the angles made by tangents to the curves at the point of intersection with the  $x$ -axis. But by the same formula,  $\tan(\pm \frac{1}{2}\pi) = (\tan \alpha' - \tan \alpha)/(1 + \tan \alpha \cdot \tan \alpha')$ . Now  $\tan \pm \frac{1}{2}\pi = \infty$  and  $1/\infty = 0$ ,  $\therefore \tan \alpha = -\cot \alpha$ ; or,  $dy/dx = -dx/dy$ . The differential equation of the one family is obtained from that of the other by substituting  $dy/dx$  for  $-dx/dy$ . Hence the equation to the orthogonal trajectory of the system of rectangular hyperbolas is,  $x dx + y dy = 0$ , or  $x^2 - y^2 = C$ , a system of rectangular hyperbolas whose axes coincide with the asymptotes of the given system. For polar coordinates it would have been necessary to substitute  $-(dr/r)d\theta$  for  $rd\theta/dr$ .

(2) Show that the orthogonal trajectories of the equipotential curves  $1/r - 1/r' = C$ , are the magnetic curves  $\cos \theta + \cos \theta' = C$ .



### § 129. Symbols of Operation.

It has been found convenient, page 68, to represent the symbol of the operation " $d/dx$ " by the letter " $D$ ". If we assume that the infinitesimal increments of the independent variable  $dx$  have the same magnitude, whatever be the value of  $x$ , we can suppose  $D$  to have a constant value. Thus,

$$Dy, D^2y, \dots \text{ stand for } \frac{dy}{dx}, \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}, \frac{d^3y}{dx^3}, \dots$$

respectively. The operations denoted by the symbols  $D, D^2, \dots$ , satisfy the elementary rules of algebra except that they are not commutative<sup>2</sup> with regard to the variables. For example, we cannot write  $D(xy) = xD(y)$ , although we can write  $D(ay) = aD(y)$ . But the index law

$$D^m D^n u = D^{m+n} u$$

is true when  $m$  and  $n$  are positive integers. It also follows that if

$$Du = v; \quad u = D^{-1}v; \quad \text{or, } u = \frac{1}{D}v; \quad \therefore v = D \cdot D^{-1}v; \quad \text{or, } D \cdot D^{-1} = 1;$$

that is to say, by operating with  $D$  upon  $D^{-1}v$  we annul the effect of the  $D^{-1}$  operator. In this notation, the equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - (\alpha + \beta)\frac{dy}{dx} + \alpha\beta y = 0,$$

can be written,

$$\{D^2 - (\alpha + \beta)D + \alpha\beta\}y = 0; \quad \text{or, } (D - \alpha)(D - \beta)y = 0.$$

Now replace  $D$  with the original symbol, and operate on one factor with  $y$ , and we get

$$\left(\frac{d}{dx} - \alpha\right)\left(\frac{d}{dx} - \beta\right)y = 0; \quad \left(\frac{d}{dx} - \alpha\right)\left(\frac{dy}{dx} - \beta y\right) = 0.$$

By operating on the second factor with the first, we get the original equation back again.

### § 130. Equations of Oscillatory Motion.

By Newton's second law, if a certain mass,  $m$ , of matter is subject to the action of an "elastic force,"  $F_0$ , for a certain time, we have, in rational units,

$$F_0 = \text{Mass} \times \text{Acceleration of the particle.}$$

If the motion of the particle is subject to friction, we may regard the friction as a force tending to oppose the motion generated by

<sup>2</sup> See footnote, page 177.

the elastic force. Assume that this force is proportional to the velocity,  $V$ , of the motion of the particle, and equal to the product of the velocity and a constant called the *coefficient of friction*, written, say,  $\mu$ . Let  $F_1$  denote the total force acting on the particle in the direction of its motion,

$$F_1 = F_0 - \mu V = m d^2s/dt^2. \quad (1)$$

If there is no friction, we have, for unit mass,

$$F_0 = d^2s/dt^2. \quad (2)$$

The motion of a pendulum in a medium which offers no resistance to its motion, is that of a material particle under the influence of a central force,  $F$ , attracting with an intensity which is proportional to the distance of the particle away from the centre of attraction. We shall call  $F$  the effective force since this is the force which is effective in producing motion. Consequently,

$$F = -q^2s, \quad (3)$$

where  $q^2$  is to be regarded as a positive constant which tends to restore the particle to a position of equilibrium—the so-called *coefficient of restitution*. It is written in the form of a power to avoid a root sign later on. The negative sign shows that the attracting force,  $F$ , tends to diminish the distance,  $s$ , of the particle away from the centre of attraction. If  $s = 1$ ,  $q^2$  represents the magnitude of the attracting force unit distance away. From (2), therefore,

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -q^2s. \quad (4)$$

The integration of this equation will teach us how the particle moves under the influence of the force  $F$ . We cannot solve the equation in a direct manner, but if we multiply by  $2ds/dt$  we can integrate term by term with regard to  $s$ ; thus,

$$2\frac{ds}{dt} \cdot \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} + 2q^2s\frac{ds}{dt} = 0; \text{ or, } \left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)^2 = -q^2s^2 + C.$$

Let us replace the constant  $C$  by the constant  $q^2r^2$ ; separate the variables, and integrate again; we get from Table II., page 193,

$$\int \frac{ds}{\sqrt{r^2 - s^2}} = \pm q \int dt; \text{ or, } \sin^{-1} \frac{s}{r} = \mp qt + \epsilon; \text{ or, } s = \mp r \sin (qt + \epsilon),$$

where  $\epsilon$  is a new integration constant. Here we have  $s$  as an explicit function of  $t$ . We have discussed this equation in an earlier chapter, pages 66 and 138. It is, in fact, the typical equation of an oscillatory motion. The particle moves to and fro on a

straight line. The value of the sine function changes with time between the limits  $+1$  and  $-1$ , and consequently  $x$  changes between the limits  $+r$  and  $-r$ . Hence,  $r$  is the amplitude of the swing;  $\epsilon$  is the phase constant or epoch of page 138. The sine of an angle always repeats itself when the angle is increased by  $2\pi$ , or some multiple of  $2\pi$ . Let the time  $t$  be so chosen that after the elapse of an interval of time  $T_0$  the particle is passing through the same position with the same velocity in the same direction, hence,

$$qT_0 = 2\pi; \text{ or, } T_0 = \frac{2\pi}{q}. \quad (5)$$

The two undetermined constants  $r$  and  $\epsilon$  serve to adapt the relation

$$s = r \sin(qt + \epsilon)$$

to the initial conditions. This is easily seen if we expand the latter as indicated in (23) and (24), page 612:

$$s = r \sin \epsilon \cdot \cos qt \pm r \cos \epsilon \cdot \sin qt.$$

Let  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  denote the undetermined constants  $r \sin \epsilon$ , and  $r \cos \epsilon$  respectively, such that

$$r = \sqrt{C_1^2 + C_2^2}; \quad \epsilon = \tan^{-1} \frac{C_1}{C_2},$$

as indicated on page 138. Now differentiate

$$s = C_1 \cos qt + C_2 \sin qt; \quad \therefore \frac{ds}{dt} = -qC_1 \sin qt + qC_2 \cos qt.$$

Let  $s_0$  denote the position of the particle at the time  $t = 0$  when moving with a velocity  $V_0$ . The sine function vanishes, and the cosine function becomes unity. Hence,  $C_1 = s_0$ ;  $C_2 = V_0/q$ , and the constants  $r$  and  $\epsilon$  may be represented in terms of the initial conditions:

$$r = \sqrt{s_0^2 + \frac{V_0^2}{q^2}}; \quad \epsilon = \tan^{-1} \frac{qs_0}{V_0}.$$

In the sine galvanometer, the restitutorial force tending to restore the needle to a position of equilibrium, is proportional to the sine of the angle of deflection of the needle. If  $J$  denotes the moment of inertia of the magnetic needle and  $G$  the directive force exerted by the current on the magnet, the equation of motion of the magnet, when there is no other retarding force, is

$$J \frac{d^2\phi}{dt^2} = -G \sin \phi. \quad (6)$$

For small angles of displacement,  $\phi$  and  $\sin \phi$  are approximately

equal. Hence,

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dt^2} = -\frac{G}{J}\phi. \quad (7)$$

From (4),  $q = \sqrt{G/J}$ , and, therefore, from (5),

$$T_0 = 2\pi \sqrt{J/G}, \quad (8)$$

a well-known relation showing that *the period of oscillation of a magnet in the magnetic field, when there is no damping action exerted on the magnet, is proportional to the square root of the moment of inertia of the magnetic needle, and inversely proportional to the square root of the directive force exerted by the current on the magnet.*

### § 131. The Linear Equation of the Second Order.

As a general rule it is more difficult to solve differential equations of higher orders than the first. Of these, the linear equation is the most important. A linear equation of the  $n$ th order is one in which the dependent variable and its  $n$  derivatives are all of the first degree and are not multiplied together. If a higher power appears the equation is not linear, and its solution is, in general, more difficult to find. The typical form is

$$\frac{d^ny}{dx^n} + P\frac{d^{n-1}y}{dx^{n-1}} + \dots + Qy = R.$$

Or, in our new symbolic notation,

$$D^ny + X_1D^{n-1}y + \dots + X_ny = X,$$

where  $P, Q, \dots, R$  are either constant magnitudes, or functions of the independent variable  $x$ . If the coefficient of the highest derivative be other than unity, the other terms of the equation can be divided by this coefficient. The equation will thus assume the typical form (1).

#### *I. Linear equations with constant coefficients.*

Let us first study the typical linear equation of the second order with constant coefficients  $P$  and  $Q$ ,

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + P\frac{dy}{dx} + Qy = 0. \quad (1)$$

The linear equation has some special properties which considerably shorten the search for the general solution. For example, let us substitute  $e^{mx}$  for  $y$  in (1). By differentiation of  $e^{mx}$ , we obtain  $dy/dx = my$ ; and  $d^2y/dx^2 = m^2y$ , therefore,

$$\frac{d^2 e^{mx}}{dx^2} + P \frac{de^{mx}}{dx} + Q e^{mx} = (m^2 + Pm + Q)e^{mx} = 0;$$

provided

$$m^2 + Pm + Q = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

This is called the **auxiliary equation**. If  $m_1$  be one value of  $m$  which satisfies (2), then  $y = e^{m_1 x}$  is one integral of (1), and  $y = e^{m_2 x}$  is another. But we must go further.

If we know two or more solutions of a linear equation, each can be multiplied by a constant, and their sum is an integral of the given equation. For example, if  $u$  and  $v$  are solutions of the equation

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = -q^2 x, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

each is called a **particular integral**, and we can substitute either  $u$  or  $v$  in place of  $x$  and so obtain

$$\frac{d^2 u}{dt^2} = -q^2 u; \text{ or, } \frac{d^2 v}{dt^2} = -q^2 v. \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

Multiply each equation by arbitrary constants, say,  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ ; add the two results together, and  $C_1 u + C_2 v$  satisfies equation (1),

$$\therefore \frac{d^2 (C_1 u + C_2 v)}{dt^2} = -q^2 (C_1 u + C_2 v). \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

This is a very valuable property of the linear equation. It means that if  $u$  and  $v$  are two solutions of (3), then the sum  $C_1 u + C_2 v$  is also a solution of the given equation. Since the given equation is of the second order, and the solution contains two arbitrary constants, the equation is completely solved. The principle of the **superposition of particular integrals** here outlined is a mathematical expression of the well-known physical phenomena discussed on page 70, namely, the principle of the coexistence of different reactions; the composition of velocities and forces; the superposition of small impulses, etc. We shall employ this principle later on, meanwhile let us return to the auxiliary equation.

1. *When the auxiliary equation has two unequal roots, say  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ , the general solution of (1) may be written down without any further trouble.*

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

This result enables us to write down the solution of a linear equation at sight when the auxiliary has unequal roots.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $(D^2 + 14D - 32)y = 0$ . Assume  $y = Ce^{mx}$  is a solution. The auxiliary becomes,  $m^2 + 14m - 32 = 0$ . The roots are  $m = 2$  or  $-16$ . The required solution is, therefore,  $y = C_1e^{2x} + C_2e^{-16x}$ .

(2) Solve  $d^2y/dx^2 + 4dy/dx + 3y = 0$ . Ansr.  $y = C_1e^{-3x} + C_2e^{-x}$ .

(3) Fourier's equation for the propagation of heat in a cylindrical bar, is  $d^2V/dx^2 - \beta^2V = 0$ . Hence show that  $V = C_1e^{\beta x} + C_2e^{-\beta x}$ .

2. *When the two roots of the auxiliary are equal.* If  $m_1 = m_2$ , in (6), it is no good putting  $(C_1 + C_2)e^{m_1x}$  as the solution, because  $C_1 + C_2$  is really one constant. The solution would then contain one arbitrary constant less than is required for the general solution. We can find the other particular integral by substituting  $m_2 = m_1 + h$ , in (6), where  $h$  is some finite quantity which is to be ultimately made equal to zero. Substitute  $m_2 = m_1 + h$  in (6); expand by Maclaurin's theorem, and, at the limit, when  $h = 0$ , we have

$$y = e^{m_1x}(A + Bx). \quad (7)$$

This enables us to write down the required solution at a glance. For equations of a higher order than the second, the preceding result must be written,

$$y = e^{m_1x}(C_1 + C_2x + C_3x^2 + \dots + C_{r-2}x^{r-1}), \quad (8)$$

where  $r$  denotes the number of equal roots.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $d^3y/dx^3 - d^2y/dx^2 - dy/dx + y = 0$ . Assume  $y = Ce^{mx}$ . The auxiliary equation is  $m^3 - m^2 - m + 1 = 0$ . The roots are 1, 1,  $-1$ . Hence the general solution can be written down at sight:

$$y = C_1e^{-x} + (C_2 + C_3x)e^x.$$

(2) Solve  $(D^3 + 3D^2 - 4)y = 0$ . Ansr.  $e^{-2x}(C_1 + C_2x) + C_3e^x$ . Hint. The roots are obtained from  $(x - 2)(x - 2)(x - 1) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 4$ .

3. *When the auxiliary equation has imaginary roots, all unequal.* Remembering that imaginary roots are always found in pairs in equations with real coefficients, let the two imaginary roots be

$$m_1 = \alpha + i\beta; \text{ and } m_2 = \alpha - i\beta.$$

Instead of substituting  $y = e^{mx}$  in (6), we substitute these values of  $m$  in (6) and get

$$y = C_1e^{(\alpha + i\beta)x} + C_2e^{(\alpha - i\beta)x} = e^{\alpha x}(C_1e^{i\beta x} + C_2e^{-i\beta x});$$

where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are the integration constants. From (13) and (15), p. 286,

$$y = e^{\alpha x}C_1(\cos \beta x + i \sin \beta x) + e^{\alpha x}C_2(\cos \beta x - i \sin \beta x). \quad (9)$$

Separate the real and imaginary parts, as in Ex. (3), p. 351,

$$\therefore y = e^{\alpha x}\{(C_1 + C_2)\cos \beta x + i(C_1 - C_2)\sin \beta x\}.$$

If we put  $C_1 + C_2 = A$ , and  $\iota(C_1 - C_2) = B$ , we can write down the real form of the solution of a linear equation at sight when its auxiliary has unequal imaginary roots.

$$y = e^{\alpha x}(A \cos \beta x + B \sin \beta x). \quad (10)$$

In order that the constants  $A$  and  $B$  in (10) may be real, the constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  must include the imaginary parts.

The undetermined constants  $A$  and  $B$  combined with the particular integrals  $u$  and  $v$  may be imaginary. Thus,  $u$  and  $v$  may be united with  $C_1$  and  $\iota C_1$ , and  $Au + \iota Bv$  is then an integral of the same equation. It is often easier to find a complex solution of this character than a real expression. If we can find an integral  $u + \iota v$ , of the given equation,  $u$  and  $v$  can each be separately regarded as particular integrals of the given equation.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show, from (9), and (2) and (3) of page 347, that we can write  $y = (\cosh \alpha x + \sinh \alpha x)(A_1 \cos \beta x + B_1 \sin \beta x)$ .

(2) Integrate  $d^2y/dx^2 + dy/dx + y = 0$ . The roots are  $\alpha = -\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\beta = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}$ .  
 $\therefore y = e^{-x/2}(A \cos \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3} \cdot x + B \sin \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3} \cdot x)$ .

(3) The equation of a point vibrating under the influence of a periodic force, is,  $d^2x/dt^2 + q^2x = 0$ , the roots are given by  $(D + \iota\alpha)(D - \iota\alpha) = 0$ . From (10),  $y = A \cos \alpha x + B \sin \alpha x$ .

(4) In the theory of electrodynamics (*Encyc. Brit.*, 28, 61, 1902) and in the theory of sound, as well as other branches of physics, we have to solve the equation

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \cdot \frac{d\phi}{dr} + k^2\phi = 0.$$

Multiply by  $r$  and notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d(r\phi)}{dr} &= \phi \frac{dr}{dr} + r \frac{d\phi}{dr} = \phi + r \frac{d\phi}{dr}; \quad \frac{d^2(\phi r)}{dr^2} = \frac{d\phi}{dr} + \frac{dr}{dr} \cdot \frac{d\phi}{dr} + r \frac{d^2\phi}{dr^2}. \\ \therefore r \frac{d^2\phi}{dr^2} + 2 \frac{d\phi}{dr} &= \frac{d^2(\phi r)}{dr^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we may write

$$\frac{d^2(\phi r)}{dr^2} = k^2(r\phi) = (D^2 + k^2)\phi r = (D + \iota k)(D - \iota k)\phi r = 0.$$

$$\therefore \phi r = Ae^{\iota kr} + Be^{-\iota kr}; \quad \therefore \phi = \frac{1}{r}(A \cos kr + B \sin kr), \text{ as in (9) and (10) above.}$$

4. When some of the imaginary roots of the auxiliary equation are equal. If a pair of the imaginary roots are repeated, we may proceed as in Case 2, since, when  $m_1 = m_2$ ,  $C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x}$ , is replaced by  $(A + Bx)e^{m_1 x}$ ; similarly, when  $m_3 = m_4$ ,  $C_3 e^{m_3 x} + C_4 e^{m_4 x}$  may be replaced by  $(C + Dx)e^{m_3 x}$ . If, therefore,

$$m_1 = m_2 = \alpha + \iota\beta; \text{ and } m_3 = m_4 = \alpha - \iota\beta,$$

the solution

$$y = (C_1 + C_2 x)e^{(\alpha + \iota\beta)x} + (C_3 + C_4 x)e^{(\alpha - \iota\beta)x},$$

becomes

$$y = e^{ax}\{(A + Bx) \cos \beta x + (C + Dx) \sin \beta x\}. \quad (11)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $(D^4 - 12D^3 + 62D^2 - 156D + 169)y = 0$ . Given the roots of the auxiliary:  $3 + 2i, 3 + 2i, 3 - 2i, 3 - 2i$ . Hence, the solution is  $y = e^{3x}\{(C_1 + C_2x) \sin 2x + (C_3 + C_4x) \cos 2x\}$ .

(2) If  $(D^2 + 1)^2(D - 1)^2y = 0$ ,  $y = (A + Bx) \sin x + (C + Dx) \cos x + (E + Fx)e^x$ .

## II. Linear equations with variable coefficients.

Linear equations with variable coefficients can be converted into linear equations with constant coefficients by means of the substitution

$$x = e^z; \text{ or, } z = \log x, \quad (12)$$

as illustrated in the following example:—

EXAMPLE.—Solve the equation

$$x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 4x \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 0,$$

by means of the substitution (12). By differentiation of (12), we obtain

$$\frac{dx}{dz} = e^z; \therefore e^z \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dz}; \therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{dy}{dz}.$$

Again,

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{1}{x} \frac{d^2y}{dz^2} - \frac{dx}{x^2} \cdot \frac{dy}{dz}; \therefore \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{1}{x^2} \left( \frac{d^2y}{dz^2} - \frac{dy}{dz} \right),$$

since, from (12),  $dx = x dz$ . Introducing these values of  $dy/dx$  and  $d^2y/dx^2$  in the given equation, we get the ordinary linear form

$$\frac{d^2y}{dz^2} + 3 \frac{dy}{dz} + 2y = 0,$$

with constant coefficients. Hence,  $y = C_1 e^{2z} + C_2 e^{-z} = C_1 x^2 + C_2 x$ .

If the equation has the form of the so-called **Legendre's equation**, say,

$$(a + x)^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 5(a + x) \frac{dy}{dx} + 6y = 0; \quad (13)$$

the substitution  $z = a + x$  will convert it into form (12), and the substitution  $e^t$  for  $a + x$  will convert it into the linear equation with constant coefficients. Hence,  $dx = (a + x) dt$ ;  $dx^2 = (a + x)^2 dt^2$ , and

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5 \frac{dy}{dt} + 6y = 0; \therefore y = C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 e^{3t} = C_1 (a + x)^2 + C_2 (a + x)^3.$$

EXAMPLE.—In the theory of potential we meet with the equation

$$\frac{d^2V}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr} = 0; \therefore r^2 \frac{d^2V}{dr^2} + 2r \frac{dV}{dr} = 0.$$

The roots of the auxiliary are  $m = 0$ , and  $m = -1$ . Hence,  $V = C_1 + C_2 r^{-1}$ .  
CC \*



### § 132. Damped Oscillations.

The equation  $\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -q^2s$  takes no account of the resistance to which a particle is subjected as it moves through such resisting media as air, water, etc. We know from experience that the magnitude of the oscillations of all periodic motions gradually diminishes asymptotically to a position of rest. This change is called the damping of the oscillations.

When an electric current passes through a galvanometer, the needle is deflected and begins to oscillate about a new position of equilibrium. In order to make the needle come to rest quickly, so that the observations may be made quickly, some resistance is opposed to the free oscillations of the needle either by attaching mica or aluminium vanes to the needle so as to increase the resistance of the air, or by bringing a mass of copper close to the oscillating needle. The currents induced in the copper by the motion of the magnetic needle, react on the moving needle, according to Lenz' law, so as to retard its motion. Such a galvanometer is said to be damped. When the damping is sufficiently great to prevent the needle oscillating at all, the galvanometer is said to be "dead beat" and the motion of the needle is aperiodic. In ballistic galvanometers, there is very much damping.

It is a matter of observation that the force which exerts the damping action is directed against that of the motion; and it also increases as the velocity of the motion increases. The most plausible assumption we can make is that the damping force, at any instant, is directly proportional to the prevailing velocity, and has a negative value. To allow for this, equation (4) must have an additional negative term. We thus get the typical equation of the second order,

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -\mu \frac{ds}{dt} - q^2s,$$

where  $\mu$  is the coefficient of friction. For greater convenience, we may write this  $2f$ , and we get

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} + 2f \frac{ds}{dt} + q^2s = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

Before proceeding further, it will perhaps make things plainer to put the meaning of this differential equation into words. The manipulation of the equations so far introduced, involves little more than an application of common algebraic principles. Dexterity in solving comes by practice. Of even greater importance than quick manipulation is the ability to form a clear concept of the physical process symbolized by the differential equation. Some of the most

important laws of Nature appear in the guise of an "unassuming differential equation". The reader should spare no pains to acquire familiarity with the art of interpretation; otherwise a mere system of differential equations may be mistaken for "laws of Nature". The late Professor Tait has said that "a mathematical formula, however brief and elegant, is merely a step towards knowledge, and an all but useless one until we can thoroughly read its meaning".

Euler once confessed that he often could not get rid of the uncomfortable feeling that his science in the person of his pencil surpassed him in intelligence. I dare say the beginner will have some such feeling as he works out the meaning of the above innocent-looking expression. The term  $d^2s/dt^2$ , page 17, denotes the relative change of the velocity of the motion of the particle in unit time; while  $2f \cdot ds/dt$  shows that this motion is opposed by a force which tends to restore the body to a position of rest, the greater the velocity of the motion, the greater the retardation; and  $q^2s$  represents another force tending to bring the moving body to rest, this force also increases directly as the distance of the body from the position of rest. The whole equation represents the mutual action of these different effects. To investigate this motion further, we must find a relation between  $s$  and  $t$ . In other words, we must solve the equations.

We can write equation (1) in the symbolic form

$$(D^2 + 2fD + q^2)s = 0,$$

the roots of the auxiliary are, pages 353 and 354,

$$\alpha = -f + \sqrt{f^2 - q^2}; \beta = -f - \sqrt{f^2 - q^2}. \quad (2)$$

The solution of (1) thus depends on the relative magnitudes of  $f$  and  $q$ . There are two important cases: the roots,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , may be real or imaginary. Both have a physical meaning and represent two essentially different types of motion. Suppose that we know enough about the moving system to be able to determine the integration constant. When  $t = 0$ , let  $V = V_0$  and  $s = 0$ .

*I. The roots of the auxiliary equation are imaginary, equal and of opposite sign.* For equal roots of opposite sign, say  $\pm iq$ , we must have  $f = 0$ , as indicated upon page 401. In this case, as in the typical equation for Case 3 of the preceding section,

$$s = C_1 \sin qt + C_2 \cos qt. \quad (3)$$

To find what this means, let us suppose that  $t = 0$ ,  $s = 0$ ,  $V_0 = 1$ ,  $q = 2$ ,  $f = 0$ . Differentiate (3),

$$ds/dt = qC_1 \cos qt - qC_2 \sin qt.$$

Hence  $1 = 2C_1 \times 1 - 2 \times C_2 \times 0$ , or  $C_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\therefore C_2 = 0$ . Hence the equation,

$$s = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t. \quad (4)$$

Curve 1 (Fig. 148) was obtained, by plotting, from equation (4) by assigning arbitrary values to  $t$  in radians; converting the radians into degrees; and finding the sine of the corresponding angle from a Table of Natural Sines. Suppose we put  $2t = 45^\circ$ , then  $\sin 45^\circ = 0.79$ ;  $t = 22.5^\circ = 0.39$  radians from Table XIII.; if  $2t = 630^\circ$ ,  $\sin 630^\circ = \sin 45^\circ$  in the fourth quadrant, it is therefore negative;  $t = 320^\circ$ ;  $\therefore t = (3.1416 + \frac{1}{2} \text{ of } 3.1416 + 0.39)$  radians. The numbers set out in the first three columns of the following table were calculated from equation (4) for the first complete vibration:—

$s = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t.$			$s = \frac{1}{2} e^{-0.1t} \sin 1.997t$			
$t$ radians.	$\sin 2t.$	$s.$	$t.$	$\sin 1.7t.$	$e^{-0.1t}.$	$s.$
0	0	0	0	0	1.00	0
0.39	+ 0.79	+ 0.39	0.46	+ 0.79	0.96	+ 3.84
0.78	+ 1.00	+ 0.50	0.92	+ 1.00	0.91	+ 4.55
1.18	+ 0.79	+ 0.39	1.38	+ 0.79	0.87	+ 3.84
1.57	0	0	1.80	0	0.84	0
1.96	- 0.79	- 0.39	2.30	- 0.79	0.79	- 3.84
2.44	- 1.00	- 0.50	2.77	- 1.00	0.76	- 4.55
2.69	- 0.79	- 0.39	3.20	- 0.79	0.73	- 3.84
3.14	0	0	3.70	0	0.69	0

II. The roots of the auxiliary equation are imaginary. For imaginary roots,  $-f \pm \sqrt{(f^2 - q^2)}$ , or, say  $-a \pm bi$ , it is necessary that  $f < q$  (page 354). In this case,

$$s = e^{-at}(C_1 \sin bt + C_2 \cos bt). \quad (5)$$

Let the coefficient of friction,  $f = 0.1$ ,  $q = 2$ ,  $t = 0$ ,  $s = 0$ ,  $V_0 = 1$ .

The roots of the auxiliary are  $m = -0.1 \pm \sqrt{0.01 - 4} = 0.1 \pm \sqrt{-3.99} = -0.1 \pm i1.997$ , where  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ . Hence  $a = 0.1$ ,  $b = 1.997$ .

Differentiate (5),

$$ds/dt = -ae^{-at}(C_1 \sin bt + C_2 \cos bt) + be^{-at}(C_1 \cos bt - C_2 \sin bt)$$

From (5),  $C_2 = 0$ , and, therefore,  $C_1 = 1/b = 0.5$ . Therefore,

$$s = 0.5e^{-0.1t} \sin 1.997t, \quad (6)$$

a result which differs from that which holds for undamped oscillations by the introduction of the factor  $e^{-0.1t}$ . The last four columns of the above table has the numbers computed for the first complete vibration from equation (6). The graph of the equation is curve 2 of Fig. 148.

The simple harmonic curve, 1, Fig. 148, represents the un-

damped oscillations of a particle. The effects of damping are brought out, by the diagram, curve 2, in an interesting manner. The net result is a **damped vibration**, which dies away at a rate depending on the resistance of the medium ( $2fv$ ) and on the magnitude of the oscillations ( $q^2s$ ). Such is the motion of a

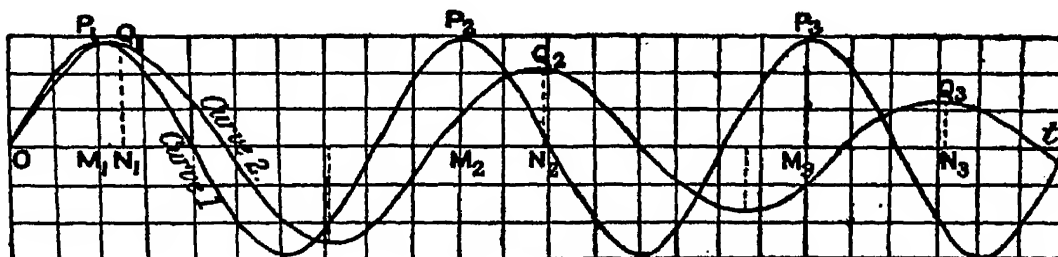


FIG. 148.

magnetic or galvanometer needle affected by the viscosity of the air and the electromagnetic action of currents induced in neighbouring masses of metal by virtue of its motion; it also represents the natural oscillations of a pendulum swinging in a medium whose resistance varies as the velocity. The effects of damping are two-fold :

1. *The period of oscillation is augmented by damping*, from  $T_0$  to  $T$ . From equation (5), we can show, page 138, that

$$s = e^{-at} A \sin bt. \quad (7)$$

The amplitude of this vibration corresponds to the value of  $t$  for which  $s$  has a maximum or a minimum value. These values are obtained in the usual way, by equating the first differential coefficient to zero, hence

$$e^{-at}(b \cos bt - a \sin bt) = 0. \quad (8)$$

If we now define the angle  $\phi$  such that  $bt = \phi$ , or

$$\tan \phi = b/a, \quad (9)$$

$\phi$ , lying between 0 and  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$  (i.e.,  $90^\circ$ ), becomes smaller as  $a$  increases in value. We have just seen that the imaginary roots of  $-f \pm \sqrt{f^2 - q^2}$  are  $-a \pm ib$ , for values of  $f$  less than  $q$ . Consequently,

$$(-f + \sqrt{f^2 - q^2})(-f - \sqrt{f^2 - q^2}) = (a + ib)(a - ib); \text{ or, } a^2 + b^2 = q^2. \quad (10)$$

The period of oscillation of an undamped oscillation is, by (5), page 398,  $T_0 = 2\pi/q$ , and similarly, for a damped oscillation  $T = 2\pi/b$

$$\therefore \frac{T^2}{T_0^2} = \frac{q^2}{b^2} = \frac{a^2 + b^2}{b^2} = 1 + \frac{a^2}{b^2}; \therefore \frac{T}{T_0} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}{b} \quad (11)$$

which expresses the relation between the periods of oscillation of a damped and of an undamped oscillation. Consequently,  $OT - OT_0 = 1.019$  (Fig. 148).

2 *The ratio of the amplitude of any vibration to the next, is constant.* The amplitudes of the undamped vibrations  $M_1P_1, M_2P_2, \dots$  become, on damping  $N_1Q_1, N_2Q_2, \dots$ . It is easy to show, by plotting, that  $\tan \phi$ , of (9), is a periodic function such that

$$\tan \phi = \tan(\phi + \pi) = \tan(\phi + 2\pi) = \dots$$

Hence  $\phi; \phi + \pi; \phi + 2\pi; \dots$  satisfy the above equation. It also follows that  $bt_1; bt_2 + \pi; bt_3 + 2\pi; \dots$  also satisfy the equation, where  $t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots$  are the successive values of the time. Hence

$bt_2 = bt_1 + \pi; bt_3 = bt_1 + 2\pi; \dots; \therefore t_2 = t_1 + \frac{1}{2}T; t_3 = t_1 + T; \dots$   
Substitute these values in (7) and put  $s_1, s_2, s_3, \dots$  for the corresponding displacements,

$$\therefore s_1 = Ae^{-at_1} \sin bt_1; -s_2 = Ae^{-at_2} \sin bt_2; \dots$$

where the negative sign indicates that the displacement is on the negative side. Hence the amplitude of the oscillations diminishes according to the compound interest law,

$$\frac{s_1}{s_2} = e^{-a(t_1 - t_2)} = e^{\frac{1}{2}aT}; \frac{s_2}{s_3} = \frac{s_3}{s_4} = \dots = e^{\frac{1}{2}aT}. \quad (12)$$

This ratio must always be a proper fraction. If  $a$  is small, the ratio of two consecutive amplitudes is nearly unity. The oscillations diminish as the terms of a geometrical series with a common ratio  $e^{aT/2}$ . By taking

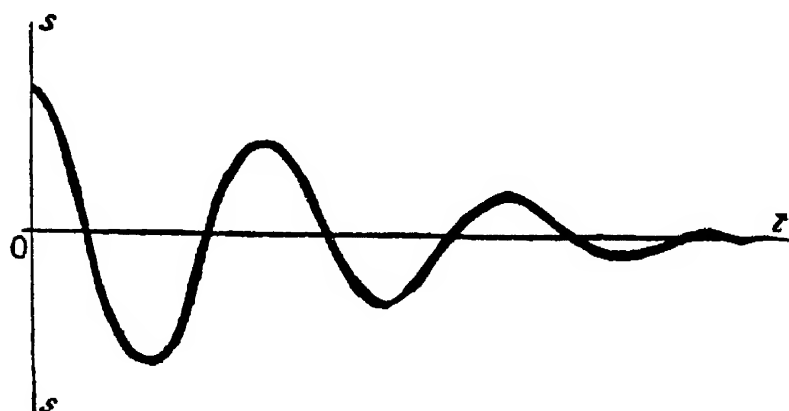


FIG. 149.—Strongly Damped Oscillations.

taking logarithms of the terms of a geometrical series the resulting arithmetical series has every succeeding term smaller than the term which precedes it by a constant difference.

This difference can be found by taking logarithms of equations (12).

Plotting these successive values of  $s$  and  $t$ , in (12), we get the curve shown in Fig. 149. The ratio of the amplitude of one swing to the next is called the **damping ratio**, by Kohlrausch ("Dämpfungsverhältnis"). It is written  $k$ . The natural logarithm of the damping ratio, is Gauss' **logarithmic decrement**, written  $\lambda$  (the

ordinary logarithm of  $k$ , is written  $L$ ). Hence

$$\lambda = \log k = \frac{1}{2}aT \log e = \frac{1}{2}aT = a\pi/b, \quad (13)$$

and from (11),

$$\frac{T^2}{T_0^2} = 1 + \frac{\lambda^2}{\pi^2}; \text{ or, } T = T_0 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\lambda^2}{\pi^2} + \dots \right). \quad (14)$$

Hence, if the damping is small, the period of oscillation is augmented by a small quantity of the second order. The logarithmic decrement allows the "damping constant" or "frictional coefficient" ( $\mu$  of pages 397 and 404) to be determined when the constant  $a$  and the period of oscillation are known. It is therefore not necessary to wait until the needle has settled down to rest before making an observation. The following table contains six observations of the amplitudes of a sequence of damped oscillations :

Observed Deflection.	$k$ .	$\lambda$	$L$
69	1.438	0.3633	0.1578
48	1.434	0.3604	0.1565
33.5	1.426	0.3548	0.1541
23.5	1.425	0.3542	0.1538
16.5	1.435	0.3612	0.1569
11.5	1.438	0.3633	0.1578
8			

Observations of oscillating pendulums, vibrating needles, etc., play an important part in the measurement of the force characterized by the constant  $q$ , whether that be the action of, say, gravity on a pendulum, of a magnetic field on the motion of a magnet. The small oscillations of a pendulum in a viscous medium furnish numerical values of the magnitude of fluid friction or viscosity.

*III. The roots of the auxiliary equation are real and unequal.* The condition for real roots  $-a$  and  $-\beta$ , in (2), is that  $f$  be greater than  $q$  (page 354). In this case,

$$s = C_1 e^{-at} + C_2 e^{-\beta t}, \quad (15)$$

solves equation (1). To find what this means, let us suppose that  $f = 3$ ,  $q = 2$ ,  $t = 0$ ,  $s = 0$ ,  $V_0 = 1$ . From (2), therefore,

$$m = -3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 4} = -3 \pm 2.24 = -0.76 \text{ and } -5.24.$$

Substitute these values in (15) and differentiate for the velocity  $v$

or  $ds/dt$ . Thus

$$s = C_1 e^{-5.24t} + C_2 e^{-.76t}; \quad ds/dt = -5.24C_1 e^{-5.24t} - 0.76C_2 e^{-.76t}.$$

$$\therefore -5.24C_1 - .76C_2 = 1.$$

From (15), when  $t=0$ ,  $s=0$ ; and  $C_1 + C_2 = 0$ ; or  $-C_1 = +C_2 = 0.225$ ,  
 $\therefore s = 0.225(e^{-.76t} - e^{-5.24t}).$  (16)

Assign particular values to  $t$ , and plot the corresponding values of  $s$  by means of Table IV., page 616. Curve 3 (Fig. 150) was



FIG. 150.

obtained by plotting corresponding values of  $s$  and  $t$  obtained in this way. The curves have lost the sinuous character, Fig. 148.

IV. *The roots of the auxiliary equation are real and equal.* The condition for real and equal roots is that  $f = q$ .

$$\therefore s = (C_1 + C_2 t)e^{-\pi}. \quad (17)$$

As before, let  $f = 2$ ,  $q = 2$ ,  $t = 0$ ,  $s = 0$ ,  $V_0 = 1$ . The roots of the auxiliary are  $-2$  and  $-2$ . Hence, to evaluate the constants,  $s = (C_1 + C_2 t)e^{-2t}$ ;  $ds/dt = C_2 e^{-2t} - 2(C_1 + C_2 t)e^{-2t}$ ;  $C_2 - 2C_1 = 1$ ;  $C_1 = 0$  and  $C_2 = 1$ ;

$$\therefore s = te^{-2t}. \quad (18)$$

Plot (18) in the usual manner. Curve 4 (Fig. 150) was so obtained.

Compare curves 3 and 4 (Fig. 148) with curves 1 and 2 (Fig. 150). Curves 3 and 4 (Fig. 150) represent the motion when the retarding forces are so great that the vibration cannot take place. The needle, when removed from its position of equilibrium, returns to its position of rest asymptotically, *i.e.*, after the lapse of an infinite time. What does this statement mean? E. du Bois Raymond calls a movement of this character an **aperiodic motion**.

### § 133. Some Degenerates.

There are some equations derived from the general equation by the omission of one or more terms. The dependent or the independent variable may be absent. I have already shown, pages 249 and 401, how to solve equations of this form:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = g; \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + q^2y = 0; \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - q^2y = 0, \quad (1)$$

where  $g$  and  $q$  are constants.

EXAMPLE.—The general equation for the deflection of a horizontal beam uniformly loaded and subjected to the pressure of its supports is

$$a \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = w; \quad \text{or,} \quad \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = b,$$

where  $a$  and  $w$  are constants. If the beam has a length  $l$  and is supported at both ends, the integration constants are evaluated on the supposition that  $y = 0$ , and  $d^2y/dx^2 = 0$  both when  $x = 0$  and  $x = l$ . Hence show that the integration constants, taken in the same order as they appear in the integration, are  $C_1 = -\frac{1}{2}bl$ ;  $C_2 = 0$ ;  $C_3 = \frac{1}{24}bl^3$ ;  $C_4 = 0$ . Hence the solution  $y = \frac{1}{24}bx(x^3 - 2lx + l^3)$ . If the beam is clamped at both ends,  $y = 0$ , and  $dy/dx = 0$  for  $x = 0$  and  $x = l$ . Show that the constants now become  $C_1 = -\frac{1}{2}bl$ ;  $C_2 = \frac{1}{12}bl^2$ ;  $C_3 = 0$ ;  $C_4 = 0$ .  $\therefore y = \frac{1}{24}bx^2(x^2 - 2lx + l^2)$ . If the beam is clamped at one end and free at the other,  $y = 0$ ,  $dy/dx = 0$  for  $x = 0$ ; and  $d^2y/dx^2 = 0$  and  $d^3y/dx^3 = 0$  when  $x = l$ . Show that  $C_1 = -bl$ ;  $C_2 = \frac{1}{2}bl$ ;  $C_3 = 0$ ;  $C_4 = 0$ .  $\therefore y = bx^2(x^2 - 4lx + 6l^2)$ .

If  $kx$  denotes the “pull” of a spring balance when stretched a distance  $x$ , at the time  $t$ , the equation of motion is

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \frac{k}{m}x = g, \quad (2)$$

where  $m$  denotes the stretching weight;  $g$  is the familiar gravitation constant. For the sake of simplicity put  $k/m = a^2$ , and we can convert (2) into one of the above forms by substituting

$$x = u + \frac{g}{a^2}; \quad \therefore \frac{d^2u}{dt^2} + a^2u = 0.$$

Solving this latter, as on page 401, we get

$$u = C_1 \cos at + C_2 \sin at; \quad \therefore x = C_2 \cos at + C_1 \sin at + g/a^2.$$

Or, you can solve (2) by substituting

$$p = \frac{dy}{dx}; \quad \therefore \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{dp}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dp}{dy} = p \frac{dp}{dy}, \quad (3)$$

so as to convert the given equation into a linear equation of the first order. For the sake of ease, take the equation

$$\frac{d^2V}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \cdot \frac{dV}{dr} = -\frac{P}{l\mu}, \quad (4)$$

which represents the motion of a fluid in a cylindrical tube of radius  $r$  and length  $l$ . The motion is supposed to be parallel to the axis of the tube and the length of the tube very great in comparison with its radius  $r$ .  $P$  denotes the difference of the pressure at the two ends of the tube. If the liquid wets the walls of the tube, the velocity is a maximum at the axis of the



tube and gradually diminishes to zero at the walls. This means that the velocity is a function of the distance,  $r$ , of the fluid from the axis of the tube.  $\mu$  is a constant depending on the nature of the fluid. First substitute  $p = dV/dr$ , as in (3)

$$\therefore \frac{dp}{dr} + \frac{p}{r} = -\frac{P}{l\mu}; \therefore rdp + pdr = -\frac{P}{l\mu}rdr; \therefore pr = -\frac{P}{2l\mu}r^2 + C_1; \quad (5)$$

$$\therefore \frac{dV}{dr} = -\frac{P}{2l\mu}r + \frac{C_1}{r}; \quad V = -\frac{P}{4l\mu}r^2 + C_1 \log r + C_2.$$

To evaluate  $C_1$  in (5), note that at the axis of the tube  $r = 0$ . This means that if  $C_1$  is a finite or an infinite magnitude the velocity will be infinite. This is physically impossible, therefore,  $C_1$  must be zero. To evaluate  $C_2$ , note that when  $r = r_1$ ,  $V$  vanishes and, therefore, we get the final solution of the given equation in the form,

$$V = \frac{P(r_1^2 - r^2)}{4l\mu},$$

which represents the velocity of the fluid at a distance  $r_1$  from the axis.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that if  $d^2y/dx^2 = 32$ , and a particle falls from rest, the velocity at the end of six seconds is  $6 \times 32$  ft. per second; and the distance traversed is  $\frac{1}{2} \times 32 \times 36$  ft.

(2) The equation of motion of a particle in a medium which resists directly as the square of the velocity is  $d^2s/dt^2 = -a(ds/dt)^2$ . Solve. Hint. Substitute as in (3);  $\therefore dp/p^2 +adt=0$ ;  $\therefore p^{-1}=at+C_1$ ;  $\therefore as=\log(at+C_1)+C_2$ ; etc.

(3) Solve  $y \cdot d^2y/dx^2 + (dy/dx)^2 = 1$ . Ansr.  $y^2 = x^2 + C_1x + C_2$ . Hint. Use (3),  $pdp/dy + p^2/y = 1/y$ ;  $\therefore py = x + C_1$ , etc.

Exact equations may be solved by successive reduction. The equation of motion of a particle under the influence of a repulsive force which varies inversely as the distance is

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = \frac{a}{s}; \therefore \frac{ds}{dt} = a \log \frac{t}{C_1}; \therefore y = as(\log \frac{t}{C_1} - 1) + C_2,$$

on integration by parts. The equation of motion of a particle under the influence of an attractive force which varies inversely as the  $n$ th power of the distance is

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -\frac{a}{s^n}; \therefore \left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)^2 = \frac{2a}{n-1} \left(\frac{1}{s^{n-1}} - \frac{1}{a^{n-1}}\right). \quad (5)$$

Again integrating, we get

$$t = a^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \sqrt{\frac{n-1}{2a}} \int_a^s \frac{s^{\frac{1}{2}(n-1)} ds}{\sqrt{a^{n-1} - s^{n-1}}}. \quad (6)$$

According to the tests of integrability, this may be integrated when  $n = \dots \frac{5}{7}, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{1}{2}, -1, \frac{3}{1}, \frac{5}{3}, \dots$ ; or when  $n = \dots \frac{3}{4}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{2}, 0, 2, \frac{3}{2}, \dots$  (7) as indicated on page 210.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $n = \frac{1}{2}$ , we get  $(ds/dt)^2 = 4a(a^{\frac{1}{2}} - s^{\frac{1}{2}})$ ; consequently,  $2\sqrt{a} \cdot dt = -(a^{\frac{1}{2}} - s^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-\frac{1}{2}} ds$ . The negative sign is taken because  $s$  and  $t$  are inverse functions of one another. Add and subtract  $2\sqrt{a}/(3\sqrt{s}\sqrt{a^{\frac{1}{2}} - s^{\frac{1}{2}}})$ . We get on rearranging terms,

$$2\sqrt{a} \cdot dt = \left( \frac{-3\sqrt{s} + 2\sqrt{a}}{3\sqrt{s}\sqrt{a^{\frac{1}{2}} - s^{\frac{1}{2}}}} - \frac{2\sqrt{a}}{3\sqrt{s}\sqrt{a^{\frac{1}{2}} - s^{\frac{1}{2}}}} \right) ds;$$

$$\therefore t = \frac{2}{3\sqrt{a}} \left\{ s^{\frac{1}{2}}(a^{\frac{1}{2}} - s^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{1}{2}} + 2\sqrt{a}(a^{\frac{1}{2}} - s^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\} = \frac{2}{3\sqrt{a}}(s^{\frac{1}{2}} + 2a^{\frac{1}{2}})(a^{\frac{1}{2}} - s^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

(2) If  $d^2z/dt^2 - z \cdot dz/dt = 0$ ; show that  $C_1 + z = (C_1 - z)e^{C_1 t + C_2}$ ; Hint. We get on substituting  $p = dz/dt$ ;  $d^2z/dt^2 = dp/dt = dz/dt \times dp/dz$   
 $\therefore p = \frac{1}{2}(z - C_1^2)$ .

(3) The equation of motion of a thin revolving disc is

$$r \frac{d^2u}{dr^2} + \frac{du}{dr} - \frac{u}{r} + ar^2 = 0; \therefore \frac{u}{r} = C_2 - \frac{C_1}{2r^2} - \frac{ar^2}{8}.$$

Hint. Add and subtract  $rdu/dr$ .

$$\left( r^2 \frac{d^2u}{dr^2} + 2r \frac{du}{dr} \right) - \left( r \frac{du}{dr} + u \right) + ar^3 = 0; \therefore \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{du}{dr} \right) - \frac{d}{dr} (ru) + \frac{d}{dr} \left( \frac{ar^4}{4} \right) = 0.$$

On integration we get an ordinary equation of the first order which can be solved (Ex. (16), p. 372) by substituting  $vr = u$ .

### § 134. Forced Oscillations.

We have just investigated the motion of a particle subject to an effective force,  $d^2s/dt^2$ , and to the impressed forces of restitution,  $q^2s$ , and resistance,  $2fV$ . The particle may also be subjected to the action of a periodic force which prevents the oscillations dying away. This is called an **external force**. It is usually represented by the addition of a term  $f(t)$  to the right-hand side of the regular equation of motion, so that

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} + 2f \frac{ds}{dt} + q^2s = f(t). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

The effective force and the three kinds of impressed force all produce their own effects, and each force is represented in the equation of motion by its own special term. The term **complementary function**, proposed by Liouville (1832), is applied to the complete solution of the left member of (1), namely,

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} + 2f \frac{ds}{dt} + q^2s = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

The complementary function gives the oscillations of the system

when not influenced by disturbing forces. This integral, therefore, is said to represent the **free or natural oscillations** of the system. The particular integral represents the effects of the external impressed force which produce the **forced oscillations**. The word "free" is only used in contrast with "forced". A free oscillation may mean either the principal oscillation or any motion represented by any number of terms from the complementary function.

Let equation (1) represent the motion of a pendulum when acted upon by a force which is a simple harmonic function of the time, such that

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} + 2f\frac{ds}{dt} + q^2s = k \cos nt. \quad (3)$$

We have already studied the complementary function of this equation in connection with damped oscillations. Any particular integral represents the forced vibration, but there is one particular integral which is more convenient than any other. Let

$$s = A \cos nt + B \sin nt, \quad (4)$$

be this particular integral. The complementary function contains the two arbitrary constants which are necessary to define the initial conditions; consequently, *the particular integral needs no integration constant*. We must now determine the forced oscillation due to the given external force, and evaluate the constants  $A$  and  $B$  in (4).

First substitute (4) in (3), and two identical equations result. Pick out the terms in  $\cos nt$ , and in  $\sin nt$ . In this manner we find that

$-An^2 + 2Bfn + q^2A = k$ ; and,  $-Bn^2 - 2Afn + q^2B = 0$ .  
Solve these two equations for  $A$  and  $B$ , and we get

$$A = \frac{k(q^2 - n^2)}{(q^2 - n^2)^2 + 4f^2n^2}; \quad B = \frac{2kfn}{(q^2 - n^2)^2 + 4f^2n^2} \quad (5)$$

It is here convenient to collect these terms under the symbols  $R$ ,  $\cos \epsilon$ , and  $\sin \epsilon$ , so that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} q^2 - n^2 &= \cos \epsilon; \quad 2fn = \sin \epsilon; \quad \epsilon = \tan^{-1} \frac{2fn}{q^2 - n^2}; \\ R &= \frac{k}{\sqrt{(q^2 - n^2)^2 + 4f^2n^2}}; \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (6)$$

$$\therefore A = R \cos \epsilon; \quad B = R \sin \epsilon. \quad (7)$$

From (4) we may now write the particular integral

$$s = R(\cos \epsilon \cdot \cos nt + \sin \epsilon \cdot \sin nt), \quad (8)$$

or, making a well-known trigonometrical substitution,

$$s = R \cos (nt - \epsilon). \quad (9)$$

This expression represents the forced oscillations of the system which are due to the external periodic force. The forced oscillation is not in the same phase as the principal oscillation induced by the effective force, but lags behind a definite amount  $\epsilon$ .

$R$  in (6) always has the same sign whatever be the signs of  $n$  and  $q$ ;  $2f$  is positive, hence  $\sin \epsilon$  is positive and the angle  $\epsilon$  lying in the first two quadrants ranges from 0 to  $\pi$ . On the other hand, the sign of  $\cos \epsilon$  does depend upon the relative magnitudes of  $n$  and  $q$ . If  $q$  be greater than  $n$ ,  $\epsilon$  is in the first quadrant; if  $q$  is less than  $n$ ,  $\epsilon$  is in the second quadrant (see Table XV., page 610); if  $q = n$ ,  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}\pi$ . The amplitude,  $R$ , of the forced vibration is proportional to the intensity,  $k$ , of the external force. If  $f$  be small enough, we can neglect the term containing  $f$  under the root sign, and then

$$R = \frac{k}{q^2 - n^2}.$$

In that case the more nearly the numerical value of  $q$  approaches  $n$ , the greater will be the amplitude,  $R$ , of the forced vibration. Finally, when  $q = n$ , we should have an infinitely great amplitude. Consequently, when  $q = n$ , we cannot neglect the magnitude of  $f^2$  and we must have

$$R_{\max} = \frac{k}{2nf^2}$$

so that the magnitude of  $R$  is conditioned by the damping constant. If  $f=0$  as is generally assumed in the equation of motion of an unresisted pendulum,

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} + q^2s = k \cos nt, \quad (10)$$

the particular integral of which

$$s = \frac{k}{q^2 - n^2} \cos nt,$$

is indeterminate when  $n = q$ . The physical meaning of this is that when a particle is acted upon by a periodic force "in step" with the oscillations of the particle, the amplitude of the forced vibrations increase indefinitely, and equation (10) no longer represents the motion of the pendulum. See page 404. As a matter of fact, equation (10) is only a first approximation obtained by neglecting the second powers of small quantities (see E. J. Routh's *Advanced Rigid Dynamics*, London, 222, 1892). I assume that the reader knows the meaning of  $q$  and  $n$ , if not, see pages 137 and 397.

If the motion of the particle is strongly damped, the maximum excitation does not occur when  $n = q$ , but when the expression under the root sign is a minimum. If  $n$  be variable, the expression under the root sign is a minimum when  $n^2 = q^2 - 2f^2$ , as indicated in Ex. (5), page 166; and  $R$  is therefore a maximum under the same conditions. If  $n$  be gradually changed so that it gradually approaches  $q$ , and at the same time  $f$  be very small,  $R$  will remain small until the root sign approaches its vanishing point, and the forced oscillations attain a maximum value rather suddenly. For example,

if a tuning fork be sounded about a metre away from another, the minute movements of air impinging upon the second fork will set it in motion.

If  $f$  be large, the expression under the root sign does not vanish and there is no sudden maximum. The amplitudes of the free vibration changes gradually with variations of  $n$ . The tympanum of the ear, and the receiver of a telephone or microphone are illustrations of this. Every ship has its own natural vibration together with the forced one due to the oscillation of the waves. If the two vibrations are synchronous, the rolling of the ship may be very great, even though the water appears relatively still. "The ship *Achilles*," says White in his *Manual of Naval Architecture*, "was remarkable for great steadiness in heavy weather, and yet it rolled very heavily off Portland in an almost dead calm." The natural period of the ship was no doubt in agreement with the period of the long swells. Iron bridges, too, have broken down when a number of soldiers have been marching over in step with the natural period of vibration of the bridge itself. And this when the bridge could have sustained a much greater load.

The complete solution of the linear equation is the sum of the particular integral and the complementary function. If the latter be given by II., page 406, the solution of (3) must be written

$$s = R \cos (nt - \epsilon) + e^{-\alpha t} (C_1 \cos qt + C_2 \sin qt).$$

We can easily evaluate the two integration constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ , when we know the initial conditions, as illustrated in the preceding section. If the particle be at rest when the external force begins to act,

$$C_1 = -R \cos \epsilon; \quad C_2 = -R \left( \frac{n}{q} \sin \epsilon + \frac{2f}{q} \cos \epsilon \right).$$

At the beginning, therefore, the amplitude of the free vibrations is

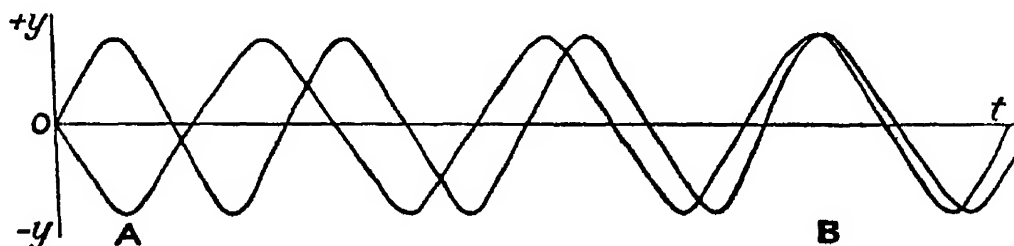


FIG. 151.

of the same order of magnitude as the forced oscillation. If the damping,  $2f$ , is small, and  $n$  is nearly equal to  $q$ , the damping factor,  $e^{-\alpha t}$ , will be very great nearly unity;  $2f/q$  is nearly zero;  $n/q$  is nearly unity; and  $\epsilon$  is nearly  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ . In that case,  $C_1 = 0$ , and  $C_2 = -R$ . The motion is then approximately

$$s = R(\sin nt - \sin qt).$$

The two oscillations  $\sin nt$  and  $-\sin qt$  are superposed upon one

another. If these two harmonic motions functions are plotted separately and conjointly, as in Fig. 151, we see at once that they almost annul one another at the beginning because the one is opposed by the other. This is shown at *A*. In a little while, the difference between  $q$  and  $n$  becomes more marked and the amplitude gradually increases up to a maximum, as shown at *B*. These phenomena recur at definite intervals, giving rise to the well-known phenomena of interference of light and sound waves, beats, etc.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Ohm's law for a constant current is  $E = RC$ ; for a variable current of  $C$  ampères flowing in a circuit with a coefficient of self-induction of  $L$  henries, with a resistance of  $R$  ohms and an electromotive force of  $E$  volts, Ohm's law is represented by the equation,

$$E = RC + L \cdot dC/dt, \quad (11)$$

where  $dC/dt$  evidently denotes the rate of increase of current per second,  $L$  is the equivalent of an electromotive force tending to retard the current.

(i) When  $E$  is constant, the solution of (11) has been obtained in a preceding set of examples,  $C = E/R + Be^{-Rt/L}$ , where  $B$  is the constant of integration. To find  $B$ , note that when  $t = 0$ ,  $C = 0$ . Hence,  $C = E(1 - e^{-Rt/L})/R$ . The second term is the so-called "extra current at make," an evanescent factor due to the starting conditions. The current, therefore, tends to assume the steady condition:  $C = E/R$ , when  $t$  is very great.

(ii) When  $C$  is an harmonic function of the time, say,  $C = C_0 \sin qt$ ;  $\therefore dC/dt = C_0 q \cos qt$ . Substitute these values in the original equation (11), and  $E = RC_0 \sin qt + LC_0 q \cos qt$ , or,  $E = C_0 \sqrt{R^2 + L^2 q^2} \cdot \sin(qt + \epsilon)$ , on compounding these harmonic motions, page 138, where  $\epsilon = \tan^{-1}(Lq/R)$ , the so-called lag<sup>1</sup> of the current behind the electromotive force, the expression  $\sqrt{R^2 + L^2 q^2}$  is the so-called *impedance*.

(iii) When  $E$  is a function of the time, say,  $f(t)$ ,

$$C = Be^{-\frac{R}{L}t} + \frac{e^{-\frac{R}{L}t}}{L} \int e^{\frac{R}{L}t} f(t) dt,$$

where  $B$  is the constant of integration to be evaluated as described above.

(iv) When  $E$  is a simple harmonic function of the time, say,  $E = E_0 \sin qt$ , then,

$$C = Be^{-\frac{R}{L}t} + \frac{E_0(R \sin qt - Lq \cos qt)}{R^2 + L^2 q^2}.$$

The evanescent term  $e^{-Rt/L}$  may be omitted when the current has settled down into the steady state. (Why?)

---

<sup>1</sup> An alternating (periodic) current is not always in phase (or, "in step") with the impressed (electromotive) force driving the current along the circuit. If there is self-induction in the circuit, the current lags behind the electromotive force; if there is a condenser in the circuit, the current in the condenser is greatest when the electromotive force is changing most rapidly from a positive to a negative value, that is to say, the maximum current is in advance of the electromotive force, there is then said to be a lead in the phase of the current.

(v) When  $E$  is zero,  $C = Be^{-t/RL}$ . Evaluate the integration constant  $B$  by putting  $C = C_0$ , when  $t = 0$ .

(2) The relation between the charge,  $q$ , and the electromotive force,  $E$ , of two plates of a condenser of capacity  $C$  connected by a wire of resistance  $R$ , is  $E = R \cdot dq/dt + q/C$ , provided the self-induction is zero. Solve for  $q$ . Show that when if  $E$  be 0;  $q = Q_0 e^{-t/RC}$ ; ( $Q_0$  is the charge when  $t = 0$ ). If  $E$  be constant;  $q = CE + Be^{-t/RC}$ . If  $E = f(t)$ ;

$$q = \frac{1}{R} e^{-\frac{t}{RC}} \int e^{\frac{t}{RC}} f(t) dt + Be^{-\frac{t}{RC}}.$$

(3) Show if  $E = E_0 \sin qt$ ;  $q = Be^{-\frac{t}{RC}} + \frac{CE(\sin qt + RCq \cos qt)}{1 + R^2 C^2 q^2}$ .

### § 135. How to find Particular Integrals.

The particular integral of the linear equation,

$$(D^2 + PD + Q)y = f(x), \quad (1)$$

it will be remembered, is any solution of this equation—the simpler the better. The particular integral contains no integration constant. The complete solution of the linear equation is the sum of the complementary function and the particular integral.

Complete solution = complementary function + particular integral.

We must now review the processes for finding particular integrals. Let  $R$  be written in place of  $f(x)$ , so that (1) may be written  $f(D)y = R$ . Consequently, we may write,

$$y = f(D)^{-1}R; \text{ or, } y = \frac{R}{f(D)}. \quad (2)$$

The right-hand side of either of equations (2), will furnish a particular integral of (1). The operation indicated in (2) depends on the form of  $f(D)$ . Let us study some particular cases.

#### I. When the operator $f(D)^{-1}$ can be resolved into factors.

Suppose that the linear equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dx} + 6y = R,$$

can be factorized. The complementary function can be written down at sight by the method given on page 401,

$$(D^2 - 5D + 6)y = 0; \text{ or, } (D - 3)(D - 2)y = 0.$$

According to (2), the particular integral,  $y_1$ , is

$$y_1 = \frac{1}{(D - 3)(D - 2)}R = \left( \frac{1}{D - 3} - \frac{1}{D - 2} \right)R;$$

On page 396 we have defined  $f(D)^{-1}R$  to be that function of  $x$  which gives  $R$  when operated upon by  $f(D)$ . Consequently,

$D^{-1}x^2 = \int x^2 dx$ . Hence,  $D - 3$  acting upon  $(D - 3)^{-1}R$  must, by definition, give  $R$ . But  $(D - 3)^{-1}R$  is the particular integral of the equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = R;$$

so that from (2), page 387,  $y = e^{-\int -3dx} \int e^{\int -3dx} R dx = e^{3x} \int e^{-3x} R dx$ .

$$\therefore y_1 = e^{3x} \int e^{-3x} R dx - e^{2x} \int e^{-2x} R dx.$$

from (2). The general solution is

$$\therefore y = C_1 e^{3x} + C_2 e^{2x} + e^{3x} \int e^{-3x} R dx - e^{2x} \int e^{-2x} R dx.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) In the preceding illustration, put  $R = e^{4x}$  and show that the general solution is,  $C_1 e^{3x} + C_2 e^{2x} + \frac{1}{2} e^{4x}$ .

(2) If  $(D^2 - 4D + 3)y = 2e^{3x}$ ;  $y = C_1 e^x + C_2 e^{3x} + x e^{3x}$ .

(3) Solve  $d^2y/dx^2 - 3dy/dx + 2y = e^{3x}$ . In symbolic notation this will appear in the form,  $(D - 1)(D - 2)y = e^{3x}$ . The complementary function is  $y = C_1 e^x + C_2 e^{2x}$ . The particular integral is obtained by putting

$$y_1 = \frac{1}{(D - 2)(D - 1)} e^{3x} = \left( \frac{1}{D - 2} - \frac{1}{D - 1} \right) e^{3x},$$

according to the method of resolution into partial fractions. Operate with the first symbolic factor, as above,  $y_1 = e^{2x} \int e^{-2x} e^{3x} dx - e^x \int e^{-x} e^{3x} dx = \frac{1}{2} e^{3x}$ . The complete solution is, therefore,  $y = C_1 e^x + C_2 e^{2x} + \frac{1}{2} e^{3x}$ .

## II. When $R$ is a rational function of $x$ , say $x^n$ .

This case is comparatively rare. The procedure is to expand  $f(D)^{-1}$  in ascending powers of  $D$  as far as the highest power of  $x$  in  $R$ . The expansion may be done by division or other convenient process.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $d^2y/dx^2 - 4dy/dx + 4y = x^2$ . The complementary function is  $y = e^{2x}(A + Bx)$ ; the particular integral is:

$$\frac{1}{(2 - D)^2} x^2 = \frac{1}{4} \left( 1 + D + \frac{3}{4} D^2 \right) x^2 = \frac{1}{8} (2x^2 + 4x + 3).$$

You will, of course, remember that the operation  $Dx^2$  is  $2x$ ; and  $D^2x^2$  is 2.

(2) If  $d^2y/dx^2 - y = 2 + 5x$ ;  $y = C_1 e^x + C_2 e^{-x} - 5x - 2$ .

(3) The particular integral of  $(D^3 + 3D^2 + 2D)y = x^2$  is  $\frac{1}{12} x(2x^2 - 9x + 21)$ ; the complementary function is  $C_1 + C_2 e^{-2x} + C_3 e^{-x}$ . The steps are

$$\frac{1}{2D + 3D^2 + D^3} x^2 = \frac{1}{2D} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{3}{2}D + \frac{1}{2}D^2} \right) x^2 = \frac{1}{2D} \left( 1 - \frac{3}{2}D + \frac{7}{4}D^2 \right) x^2.$$

Now proceed as in Ex. (1) for the operation  $Dx^2$  and  $D^2x^2$ . Then note that

$$\frac{1}{D}x = \int x dx; \quad \frac{1}{D}x^2 = \int x^2 dx; \quad \text{etc.}$$

## III. When $R$ contains an exponential factor, so that $R = e^{ax}X$ .

Two cases arise according as  $X$  is or is not a function of  $x$ ,  $a$  is constant.



(i) When  $X$  is a function of  $x$ . Since  $D^n e^{ax} = a^n e^{ax}$ , where  $n$  is any positive integer, we have

$$D(e^{ax}X) = e^{ax}DX + ae^{ax}X = e^{ax}(D + a)X,$$

and generally, as in Leibnitz' theorem, page 67,

$$D^n e^{ax}X = e^{ax}(D + a)^n X;$$

$$\therefore \frac{D^n e^{ax}}{(D + a)^n} X = e^{ax}X; \text{ and } \frac{1}{(D + a)^n} X e^{ax} = e^{ax} \frac{1}{D^n} X. \quad (3)$$

Consequently, the operation  $f(D)^{-1} e^{ax}X$  is performed by transplanting  $e^{ax}$  from the right- to the left-hand side of the operator  $f(D)^{-1}$  and replacing  $D$  by  $D + a$ . This will, perhaps, be better understood from Exs. (1) and (2) below.

(ii) When  $X$  is constant, operation (3) reduces to

$$\frac{1}{f(D)} e^{ax} = \frac{1}{f(a)} e^{ax}. \quad (4)$$

The operation  $f(D)^{-1} e^{ax}$  is simply performed by replacing  $D$  by  $a$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $d^2y/dx^2 - 2dy/dx + y = x^2 e^{3x}$ . The complete solution, by page 418, is  $(C_1 + xC_2)e^x + (D + 2D + 1)^{-1} x^2 e^{3x}$ . The particular integral is

$$\frac{1}{D^2 - 2D + 1} x^2 e^{3x} = \frac{1}{(D - 1)(D - 1)} x^2 e^{3x}.$$

By rule:  $e^{3x}$  may be transferred from the right to the left side of the operator provided we replace  $D$  by  $D + 3$ .

$$\therefore y_1 = e^{3x} \frac{1}{(D + 2)^2} x^2.$$

We get from  $I$  above,  $e^{3x}(\frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{3}{2})$ , as the value of the particular integral.

(2) Evaluate  $(D - 1)^{-1} e^x \log x$ . Ansr.  $e^x(x \log x - x)$ ; or  $xe^x \log(x/e)$ . Integrate  $\int \log x dx$  by parts.

(3) Find the particular integral in  $(D^2 - 3D + 2)y = e^{3x}$ ,

$$\frac{1}{D^2 - 3D + 2} e^{3x} = \frac{1}{3^2 - 3 \cdot 3 + 2} e^{3x} = \frac{1}{2} e^{3x}.$$

(4) Show that  $\frac{1}{2}e^x$  is a particular integral in  $d^2y/dx^2 + 2dy/dx + y = e^x$ .

(5) Repeat Ex. 1,  $I$ , above, by this method.

An anomalous case arises when  $a$  is a root of  $f(D) = 0$ . By this method, we should get for the particular integral of  $dy/dx - y = e^x$ .

$$\frac{1}{D - 1} e^x = \frac{e^x}{1 - 1} = \infty e^x.$$

The difficulty is evaded by using the method (3) instead of (4). Thus,

$$\frac{1}{D - 1} e^x = e^x \frac{1}{D} \cdot 1 = xe^x.$$

The complete solution is, therefore,  $y = Ce^x + xe^x$ .

Another mode of treatment is the following: If  $a$  is a root of  $f(D) = 0$ , then as on page 354,  $D - a$  must be a factor of  $f(D)$ .

Consequently,

$$f(D) = (D - a)f'(D);$$

and the particular integral is

$$\therefore \frac{1}{f(D)}e^{ax} = \frac{1}{(D - a)} \cdot \frac{1}{f'(D)}e^{ax} = \frac{1}{(D - a)} \cdot \frac{1}{f'(a)}e^{ax} = e^{ax} \frac{1}{f'(a)} \int dx. \quad (5)$$

If the factor  $D - a$  occurs twice, then following the same rule

$$\frac{1}{f(D)}e^{ax} = \frac{1}{(D - a)^2 f'(D)}e^{ax} = \frac{1}{(D - a)} \cdot \frac{1}{f'(a)}e^{ax} = e^{ax} \frac{1}{f'(a)} \iint dx dx; \quad (6)$$

and so on for any number of factors.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the particular integrals in,  $(D + 1)^3 y = e^{-x}$ . Ansr.  $\frac{1}{6}x^3 e^{-x}$ . Hint. Use (6) extended; or, since the root  $a$  is  $-1$ , we have to evaluate  $e^{-x} \cdot D^{-3}$ ; that is,  $e^{-x} \iiint dx dx dx$ .

(2)  $(D^3 - 1)y = xe^x$ . Ansr.  $e^x(\frac{1}{8}x^2 - \frac{1}{8}x)$ . Hint. By the method of (3), and Ex. (3), II., above,

$$\frac{1}{D^3 - 1}xe^x = e^x \frac{1}{(D + 1)^3 - 1}x = e^x \frac{1}{D^3 + 3D^2 + 3D}x = e^x \frac{1}{D} \left( \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{3}D \right) x = e^x \frac{1}{D} \left( \frac{x}{3} - \frac{1}{3} \right).$$

#### IV. When $R$ contains sine or cosine factors.

By the successive differentiation of  $\sin nx$ , page 67, we find that  $D \sin nx = \frac{d(\sin nx)}{dx} = n \cos nx$ ;  $D^2 \sin nx = \frac{d^2(\sin nx)}{dx^2} = -n^2 \sin nx$ ; ...

$$\therefore (D^2)^n \sin(nx + a) = (-n^2)^n \sin(nx + a),$$

where  $n$  and  $a$  are constants. And evidently

$$f(D^2) \sin(nx + a) = f(-n^2) \sin(nx + a).$$

By definition of the symbol of operation,  $f(D^2)^{-1}$ , page 396, this gives us

$$\therefore \frac{1}{f(D^2)} \sin(nx + a) = \frac{1}{f(-n^2)} \sin(nx + a). \quad (7)$$

It can be shown in the same way that,

$$\frac{1}{f(D^2)} \cos(nx + a) = \frac{1}{f(-n^2)} \cos(nx + a). \quad (8)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1)  $d^3y/dx^3 + d^2y/dx^2 + dy/dx + y = \sin 2x$ . Find the particular integral.

$$\frac{R}{f(D)} = \frac{1}{D^3 + D^2 + D + 1} \sin 2x = \frac{1}{(D^2 + 1) + D(D^2 + 1)} \sin 2x.$$

Substitute  $-2^2$  for  $D^2$  as in (7). We thus get  $-\frac{1}{2}(D + 1)^{-1} \sin 2x$ . Multiply and divide by  $D - 1$  and again substitute  $D^2 = (-2^2)$  in the result. Thus we get  $\frac{1}{16}(D - 1) \sin 2x$ ; or  $\frac{1}{16}(2 \cos 2x - \sin 2x)$ .

(2) Solve  $d^2y/dx^2 - k^2y = \cos mx$ . Ansr.  $C_1 e^{kx} + C_2 e^{-kx} - (\cos mx)/(m^2 + k^2)$ .

(3) If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are the roots of the auxiliary equation derived from Helmholtz's equation,  $d^2y/dt^2 + md y/dt + n^2 y = a \sin nt$ , for the vibrations of a tuning-fork, show that  $y = C_1 e^{\alpha t} + C_2 e^{\beta t} - (a \cos nt)/mn$  is the complete solution.

An anomalous case arises when  $D^2$  in  $D^2 + n^2$  is equal to  $-n^2$ . For instance, the particular integral of  $d^2y/dx^2 + n^2y = \frac{\cos nx}{\sin nx}$ , is  $(D^2 + n^2)^{-1} \frac{\cos nx}{\sin nx}$ . If the attempt is made to evaluate this, by substituting  $D^2 = -n^2$ , we get  $\frac{\cos nx}{\sin nx} (-n^2 + n^2)^{-1} = \infty \frac{\cos nx}{\sin nx}$ . We were confronted with a similar difficulty on page 420. The treatment is practically the same. We take the limit of  $(D^2 + n^2)^{-1} \frac{\cos nx}{\sin nx}$ , when  $n$  of  $\frac{\cos nx}{\sin nx}$  and  $-D^2$  become  $n + h$  and  $h$  converges towards zero. In this manner we find that the particular integral assumes the form

$$+ \frac{x \sin nx}{2n} \text{ if } R = \cos nx; \text{ and } - \frac{x \cos nx}{2n} \text{ if } R = \sin nx. \quad (9)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Evaluate  $(D^2 + 4)^{-1} \cos 2x$ . Ansr.  $\frac{1}{4}x \sin 2x$ .

(2) Show that  $-\frac{1}{2}x \cos x$ , is the particular integral of  $(D^2 + 1)y = \sin x$ .

(3) Evaluate  $(D^2 + 4)^{-1} \sin 2x$ . Ansr.  $-\frac{1}{4}x \cos 2x$ .

V. When  $R$  contains any function of  $x$ , say  $X$ , such that  $R = xX$ .

The successive differentiation of a product of two variables,  $xX$ , gives, pages 40 and 67,

$$D^n xX = xD^n X + nD^{n-1}X.$$

$$\therefore f(D)xX = xf(D)X + f'(D)X. \quad (10)$$

Substitute  $Y = f(D)X$ , where  $Y$  is any function of  $x$ . Operate with  $f(D)^{-1}$ . We get the particular integral

$$\frac{1}{f(D)}xX = \left\{ x \frac{1}{f(D)} - \frac{f'(D)}{f(D)^2} \right\} X. \quad (11)$$

where  $f'(D)/f(D)^2$  is the differential coefficient of  $f(D)^{-1}$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the particular integral in  $d^3y/dx^3 - y = xe^{2x}$ . Remember that  $f(D)$  is the differential coefficient of  $D^3 - 1$ . From (11) the particular integral is

$$\left\{ x - \frac{1}{D^3 - 1} \cdot 3D^2 \right\} \frac{1}{D^3 - 1} e^{2x} = \left\{ x - \frac{1}{7} \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \right\} \frac{1}{7} e^{2x} = \left( \frac{x}{7} - \frac{12}{49} \right) e^{2x}.$$

(2) Show in this way, that the particular integral of  $(D - 1)y = x \sin x$  is

$$x \frac{1}{D - 1} \sin x - \frac{1}{(D - 1)^2} \sin x = x \frac{D + 1}{D^2 - 1} \sin x - \frac{(D + 1)^2}{(D^2 - 1)^2} \sin x;$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}x(D + 1) \cos x - \frac{1}{2}(D^2 + 2D + 1) \cos x = \frac{1}{2}x(\cos x + \sin x) - \frac{1}{2} \cos x.$$

(3) If  $d^2y/dx^2 - y = x^2 \cos x$ ;  $y = C_1 e^x + C_2 e^{-x} + x \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \cos x (1 - x^2)$ . Hint. By substituting  $xX$  in place of  $X$  in (10), the particular integral may be transformed into

$$\frac{1}{f(D)}x^2X = \left\{ x^2 \frac{1}{f(D)} + 2x \frac{f'(D)}{f(D)^2} + \frac{f''(D)}{f(D)^3} \right\} X, \quad (12)$$

where  $f'(D)/f(D)^2$ , and  $f''(D)/f(D)^3$  respectively denote the first and second differential coefficient of  $f(D)^{-1}$ . Successive reduction of  $x^n X$  furnishes a similar formula. The numerical coefficients follow the binomial law. Re-

turning to the original problem, the first and second differential coefficients of  $(D^2 - 1)^{-1}$  are  $-2D(D^2 - 1)^{-2}$ , and  $(2D^2 - 2)(D^2 - 1)^{-3}$ . Hence,

$$\frac{1}{f(D)}x^2\cos x = \left\{ x^2\frac{1}{D^2 - 1} + 2x\frac{-2D}{(D^2 - 1)^2} + \frac{2(D^2 - 1)}{(D^2 - 1)^3} \right\} \cos x;$$

$$\therefore y_1 = -\frac{1}{2}x^2\cos x - \frac{1}{2}x\sin x + \frac{1}{2}\cos x.$$

(4) Solve  $d^3y/dx^3 - y = x\sin x$ . The particular integral consists of two parts,  $\frac{1}{2}\{(x - 3)\cos x - x\sin x\}$ . The complementary function is

$$C_1e^x + e^{-\frac{1}{2}x}\{C_2\sin(\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}x) + C_3\cos(\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}x)\}.$$

### § 136. The Gamma Function.

The equation of motion of a particle of unit mass moving under the influence of an attractive force whose intensity varies inversely as the distance of the particle away from the seat of attraction is obviously

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -\frac{a}{s},$$

where  $a$  is a constant, and the minus sign denotes that the influence of the force upon the particle diminishes as time goes on. To find the time occupied by a particle in passing from a distance  $s = s$  to  $s = s_0$ , we must integrate this equation. Here, on multiplying through by  $2ds/dt$ , we get

$$\int 2\frac{ds}{dt} \cdot \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -2a \int \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{ds}{dt}; \therefore \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{ds}{dt}\right)^2 = -a \log s + C.$$

If  $v = 0$  when  $s = s_0$ ,

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \sqrt{2a \log \frac{s_0}{s}}; \text{ or, } t = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2a}} \int_{s_0}^s \frac{ds}{\sqrt{\log \frac{s_0}{s}}}. \quad (1)$$

For the sake of convenience, let us write  $y$  in place of  $\log s_0/s$ . From the well-known properties of logarithms discussed on page 24, it follows that if  $s = s_0$ ,  $y = 0$ ; and if  $s = 0$ ,  $y = \infty$ . Hence, passing into exponentials,

$$\log \frac{s_0}{s} = y; \quad \frac{s_0}{s} = e^y; \quad s = s_0e^{-y}; \quad ds = -s_0e^{-y}dy;$$

$$\therefore t = -\frac{s_0}{\sqrt{2a}} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-y}dy}{\sqrt{y}} = -\frac{s_0}{\sqrt{2a}} \int_0^\infty y^{-\frac{1}{2}}e^{-y}dy. \quad (2)$$

It is sometimes found convenient, as here, to express the solution of a physical problem in terms of a definite integral whose numerical value is known, more or less accurately, for certain values of the variable. For example, there is Soldner's table of

$\int_0^a (\log x)^{-1} dx$ ; Gilbert's tables of Fresnel's integral  $\int_0^v \cos \frac{1}{2}\pi v \cdot dv$ , or  $\int_0^v \sin \frac{1}{2}\pi v \cdot dv$ ; Legendre's tables of the elliptic integrals; Kramp's table of the integral  $\int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} \cdot dt$ ; and Legendre's table of the integral  $\int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{n-1} \cdot dx$ , or the so-called "gamma function". We shall speak about the last three definite integrals in this work.

Following Legendre, the **gamma function**, or the "second Eulerian integral," is usually symbolised by  $\Gamma(n)$ . By definition, therefore,

$$\Gamma(n) = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{n-1} \cdot dx. \quad (3)$$

Integrate by parts, and we get

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^n \cdot dx = n \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{n-1} \cdot dx - e^{-x} x^n. \quad (4)$$

The last term vanishes between the limits  $x = 0$  and  $x = \infty$ . Hence

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^n \cdot dx = n \int_0^\infty e^{-x} x^{n-1} \cdot dx. \quad (5)$$

In the above notation, this means that

$$\Gamma(n+1) = n\Gamma(n). \quad (6)$$

If  $n$  is a whole number, it follows from (6), that

$$\Gamma(n+1) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots n = n!. \quad (7)$$

This important relation is true for any function of  $n$ , though  $n!$  has a real meaning only when  $n$  is integral.

The numerical value of the gamma function has been tabulated for all values of  $n$  between 1 and 2 to twelve decimal places. By the aid of such a table, the approximate value of all definite integrals reducible to gamma functions can be calculated as easily as ordinary trigonometrical functions, or logarithms. There are four cases:

1.  $n$  lies between 0 and 1. Use (16).
2.  $n$  lies between 1 and 2. Use Table V., below.
3.  $n$  is greater than 2. Use (6) so as to make the value of the given expression depend on one in which  $n$  lies between 1 and 2.
4.  $\Gamma(1) = 1$ ;  $\Gamma(2) = 1$ ;  $\Gamma(0) = \infty$ ;  $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \sqrt{\pi}$ . (8)

#### *1. The conversion of definite integrals into the gamma function.*

The following are a few illustrations of the conversion of definite integrals into gamma functions. For a more extended discussion special text-books must be consulted. If  $a$  is inde-

pendent of  $x$ ,

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-ax} x^{m-1} \cdot dx = \frac{1}{a^m} \Gamma(m); \quad (9)$$

$$\int_0^1 x^{m-1} (1-x)^{n-1} \cdot dx = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{m-1} dx}{(1+x)^{m+n}} = \frac{\Gamma(m)\Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(m+n)}. \quad (10)$$

The first member of (10) is sometimes called the *first Eulerian integral*, or *beta function*. It is written  $B(m, n)$ . The beta function is here expressed in terms of the gamma function. Substitute  $x = ay/b$  in the second member of (10), and we get

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{y^{m-1} dy}{(ay + b)^{m+n}} = \frac{\Gamma(m)\Gamma(n)}{a^m b^n \Gamma(m+n)}. \quad (11)$$

Other relations are :

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^n x \cdot dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \cos^n x \cdot dx = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}(n+1))}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}n+2)}. \quad (12)$$

$$\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^p x \cdot \cos^q x \cdot dx = \frac{\Gamma[\frac{1}{2}(p+1)] \cdot \Gamma[\frac{1}{2}(q+1)]}{2\Gamma[\frac{1}{2}(p+q)+1]}. \quad (13)$$

$$\int_0^1 x^m \log\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^n dx = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{(m+1)^{n+1}} \int_0^1 x^m \log x^n dx = \frac{(-1)^n \Gamma(n+1)}{(m+1)^{n+1}}. \quad (14)$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} x^n e^{-ax} dx = a^{-(n+1)} \Gamma(n+1); \quad \int_0^{\infty} e^{-a^2 x^2} dx = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{a} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi}}{a}. \quad (15)$$

You can now evaluate (2). We get

$$t = \frac{s_0}{\sqrt{2a}} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2a}} s_0.$$

Compare the result with that obtained by the process of integration described on pages 342 and 344.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Evaluate  $\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sin^{10} x \cdot dx$ . Hint. From (12),  $\frac{\frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{11}{2})}{\Gamma(6)}$

$$\therefore \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \cdot \frac{\frac{9}{2} \cdot \frac{7}{2} \cdot \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\pi}}{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot \frac{9}{10} \cdot \frac{7}{8} \cdot \frac{5}{6} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

(2) Evaluate  $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-ax} x^5 \cdot dx$ . Use (9). Ansr.  $\frac{\Gamma(6)}{a^6} = \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{a^6}$ .

(3) If  $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{m-1} dx}{1+x} = \frac{\pi}{\sin m\pi}$ , show that  $\Gamma(m) \cdot \Gamma(1-m) = \frac{\pi}{\sin m\pi}$ ; and

$\Gamma(1+m) \cdot \Gamma(1-m) = \frac{m\pi}{\sin m\pi}$ , by putting  $m+n=1$  in the beta function, etc.

These two results can be employed for evaluating the gamma function when  $n$  lies between 0 and 1. By division

$$\Gamma(m) = \frac{\Gamma(1+m)}{m}. \quad (16)$$

If  $m = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = 3.6254$ ;  $\log \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = 0.5594$ ; if  $m = \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\Gamma(\frac{1}{3}) = 1.7725$ ;

$\log_{10} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = 0.248\bar{5}$ ; and if  $m = \frac{3}{2}$ ,  $\Gamma(\frac{3}{2}) = 1.2253$ ;  $\log_{10} \Gamma(\frac{3}{2}) = 0.088\bar{3}$ ; where the bar shows that the figure has been strengthened.

## II. Numerical computations.

Table V. gives the value of  $\log_{10} \Gamma(n)$  to four decimal places for all values of  $n$  between 1 and 2. It has been adapted from Legendre's tables to twelve decimal places in his *Exercices de Calcul Intégral*, Paris, 2, 18, 1817. For all values of  $n$  between 1 and 2,  $\log \Gamma(n)$  will be negative. Hence, as in the ordinary logarithmic tables of the trigonometrical functions, the tabular logarithm is often increased by the addition of 10 to the logarithm of  $\Gamma(n)$ . This must be allowed for when arranging the final result.

TABLE V.—COMMON LOGARITHMS OF  $\Gamma(n)$  FROM  $n = 1.00$  TO  $n = 1.99$ .

$n$ .	0.00.	0.01.	0.02.	0.03.	0.04.	0.05.	0.06.	0.07.	0.08.	0.09.
1.0	0.0000	I.9975	I.9951	I.9928	I.9905	I.9883	I.9862	I.9841	I.9821	I.9802
1.1	I.9783	I.9765	I.9748	I.9731	I.9715	I.9699	I.9684	I.9669	I.9655	I.9642
1.2	I.9629	I.9617	I.9685	I.9594	I.9583	I.9573	I.9564	I.9554	I.9546	I.9538
1.3	I.9530	I.9523	I.9516	I.9510	I.9505	I.9500	I.9495	I.9491	I.9487	I.9483
1.4	I.9481	I.9478	I.9476	I.9475	I.9473	I.9473	I.9472	I.9473	I.9473	I.9474
1.5	I.9475	I.9477	I.9479	I.9482	I.9485	I.9488	I.9492	I.9496	I.9501	I.9506
1.6	I.9511	I.9517	I.9523	I.9529	I.9536	I.9543	I.9550	I.9558	I.9566	I.9575
1.7	I.9584	I.9593	I.9603	I.9613	I.9623	I.9633	I.9644	I.9656	I.9667	I.9679
1.8	I.9691	I.9704	I.9717	I.9730	I.9743	I.9757	I.9771	I.9786	I.9800	I.9815
1.9	I.9831	I.9846	I.9862	I.9878	I.9895	I.9912	I.9929	I.9946	I.9964	I.9982

$$\log_{10} \sqrt{\pi} = 0.24857498635 = \log_{10} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}).$$

EXAMPLE.—Evaluate  $\int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sqrt{\sin x} \cdot dx$ . Ansr. 1.198. Hint. Use (13),  $q = 0$ ,  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sqrt{\sin x} \cdot dx &= \frac{\Gamma(\frac{3}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{2\Gamma(\frac{3}{2})} \cdot \log \frac{\Gamma(\frac{3}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{2\Gamma(\frac{3}{2})} = \log \Gamma(\frac{3}{2}) + \log \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) - \log 2 - \log \Gamma(\frac{3}{2}) \\ &= 0.0883 + 0.2485 - 0.3010 - 1.9573 = 0.0823 = \log 1.198. \end{aligned}$$

## § 137. Elliptic Integrals.

The equation of motion of a pendulum swinging through a finite angle is

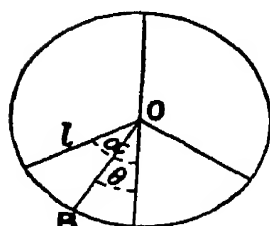


FIG. 152

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} = -\frac{g}{l} \sin \theta, \quad (1)$$

where  $\theta$  represents the angle,  $BOA$  (Fig. 152), described by the pendulum on one side of the vertical at the time  $t$ , reckoned from the instant the pendulum was vertical;  $g$  is the constant of

gravitation;  $l$  the length of the string  $AO$ . Hence, show that

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d\theta}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{g}{l} \cos \theta = C; \therefore C = -\frac{g}{l} \cos \alpha;$$

$$\therefore \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{2g}{l} (\cos \theta - \cos \alpha)} = \pm 2\sqrt{\frac{g}{l} \left( \sin^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} - \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right)}, \quad (2)$$

since  $\cos \alpha = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \alpha$ ;  $\cos \theta = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \theta$ , and  $\alpha$  is the value of  $\theta$  when  $d\theta/dt = 0$ , that is,  $\alpha$  is the angle, less than  $180^\circ$ , through which the pendulum oscillates on each side of the vertical. Since  $\theta$  is always less than  $\alpha$ , we retain the negative sign.

The period of an oscillation, or double swing,  $T$ , can therefore be obtained from (2). We have<sup>1</sup>

$$\frac{T}{4} \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}} = \int_0^\phi \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{\alpha}{2} \cdot \sin^2 \phi}}, \quad (3)$$

since to pass from 0 to  $\frac{1}{4}T$ ,  $\theta$  increases from 0 to  $\alpha$ , and  $\phi$  from 0 to  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ . Hence, we may write

$$\frac{T}{4} \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}} = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 \phi}}. \quad (4)$$

The expression on the right is called an **elliptic integral of the first class**, and usually written  $F(k, \phi)$ . The constant  $\sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha$  is called the *modulus*, and it is usually represented by the symbol  $k$ . The modulus is always a proper fraction, i.e., less than unity.  $\phi$  is called the *amplitude* of  $T \sqrt{g/l}$ , and it is written  $\phi = \text{am } \sqrt{g/l} T$ . We can always transform (2) by substituting  $\sin \frac{1}{2} \theta = x \sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha$ , where  $x$  is a proper fraction. By differentiation,

$\frac{1}{2} \cos \frac{1}{2} \theta \cdot d\theta = \sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot dx$ ;  $\therefore d\theta = 2(1 - \sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot x^2)^{-1/2} \sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot dx$ . This leads to the normal form of the elliptic integrals of the first class, namely,

$$\frac{T}{4} \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}} = \int_0^x \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(1 - x^2)(1 - k^2 x^2)}}, \quad (5)$$

commonly written  $F(k, x)$ . We can evaluate these integrals in

<sup>1</sup> The expression on the right of (2) can be put in a simpler form by writing

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \frac{1}{2} \theta &= \sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot \sin \phi; \therefore \frac{1}{2} \cos \frac{1}{2} \theta \cdot d\theta = \sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot \cos \phi \cdot d\phi. \\ d\theta &= \frac{2 \sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot \cos \phi \cdot d\phi}{\cos \frac{1}{2} \theta} = \frac{2 \sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot \cos \phi d\phi}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \theta}} = \frac{2 \sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cos \phi d\phi}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot \cos^2 \phi}}; \\ \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{\sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \alpha - \sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \theta}} &= \frac{2 \sin \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cos \phi d\phi}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \alpha \sin^2 \phi}} = \frac{2 \cos \phi d\phi}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{1}{2} \alpha \cdot \sin^2 \phi}}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence (3) above. These results follow directly from the statements on pages 611 and 612.



series as shown on Ex. (4), page 342. In this way we get, from (4), for the period of oscillation,

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l}{g}} \left\{ 1 + \left(\frac{1}{2}k\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 4}k^2\right)^2 + \dots \right\} \quad (6)$$

When the swing of the pendulum is small, the period of oscillation,  $T = 2\pi \sqrt{l/g}$  seconds. If the angle of vibration is increased, in the first approximation, we see that the period must be increased by the fraction  $\frac{1}{4}(\sin \frac{1}{2}\alpha)^2$  of itself.

The integral (3) is obviously a function of its upper limit  $\phi$ , and it therefore expresses  $T \sqrt{g/l}$  as a function of  $\phi$ . We can reverse this and represent  $\phi$  as a function of  $T \sqrt{g/l}$ . This gives us the so-called **elliptic functions**.

$$\phi = \text{am } (T \sqrt{g/l}) : \text{mod } k = \sin \frac{1}{2}\alpha.$$

The elliptic functions are thus related to the elliptic integrals the same as the trigonometrical functions are related to the inverse trigonometrical functions, for, as we have seen, if

$$y = \int_0^x \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}; \therefore y = \sin^{-1}x; \text{ and } x = \sin y.$$

We get, from (3) and (5),

$$\phi = \text{am } T \sqrt{g/l}; \quad x = \sin \phi; \therefore x = \sin \text{am } T \sqrt{g/l},$$

according to Jacobi's notation, but which is now written, after Gudermann,  $x = \text{sn } T \sqrt{g/l}$ . Similarly the centrifugal force,  $F$ , of a pendulum bob of mass  $m$  oscillating like the above-described pendulum, is written  $F = 4mg \sin \frac{1}{2}\alpha \cdot \text{cn } T \sqrt{g/l}$ , where  $\text{cn } T \sqrt{g/l}$  is the cosine of the amplitude of  $T \sqrt{g/l}$ .

The elliptic functions bear important analogies with the ordinary trigonometrical functions. The latter may be regarded as special forms of the elliptic functions with a zero modulus, and there is a system of formulæ connecting the elliptic functions to each other. Many of these bear a formal resemblance to the ordinary trigonometrical relations. Thus,

$$\text{sn}^2 u + \text{cn}^2 u = 1; \quad x = \text{sn } u; \quad \text{cn } u = \sqrt{1-x^2}; \text{ etc.}$$

The elliptic functions are periodic. The value of the period depends on the modulus  $k$ . We have seen that the period of oscillation of the pendulum is a function of the modulus. The substitution equation,  $\sin \frac{1}{2}\theta = \sin \frac{1}{2}\alpha \cdot \sin \phi$ , shows how  $\sin \frac{1}{2}\theta$  changes as  $\phi$  increases uniformly from 0 to  $2\pi$ .

As  $\phi$  increases from 0 to  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}\theta$  increases to  $+\frac{1}{2}\alpha$ .

As  $\phi$  increases from  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$  to  $\pi$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}\theta$  decreases to 0.

As  $\phi$  increases from  $\pi$  to  $\frac{3}{2}\pi$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}\theta$  decreases to  $-\frac{1}{2}\alpha$ .

As  $\phi$  increases from  $\frac{3}{2}\pi$  to  $2\pi$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}\theta$  increases to 0.

During the continuous increase of  $\phi$ , therefore,  $\frac{1}{2}\theta$  moves to and fro between the limits  $\pm \frac{1}{2}\alpha$ .

The rectification of a great number of curves furnishes expressions which can only be integrated by approximation methods—say, in series. The lemniscate and the hyperbola furnish elliptic integrals of the first class which can only be evaluated in series. In the ellipse, the ratio  $oF_1/oP_2$  (Fig. 22, page 100) is called the eccentricity of the ellipse, the “ $e$ ” of Ex. (3), page 115. Therefore,

$$c = ae; \text{ but, } c^2 = a^2 - b^2, \therefore b^2/a^2 = 1 - e^2.$$

Substitute this in the equation of the ellipse (1), page 100. Hence,

$$y^2 = (1 - e^2)(a^2 - x^2); \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 = \frac{(1 - e^2)x^2}{a^2 - x^2}.$$

Therefore, the length,  $l$ , of the arc of the quadrant of the ellipse is

$$l = \int_0^a \sqrt{\frac{a^2 - e^2x^2}{a^2 - x^2}} \cdot dx. \quad (7)$$

This expression cannot be reduced by the usual methods of integration. Its value can only be determined by the usual methods of approximation. Equation (7) can be put in a simpler form by writing  $x = a \sin \phi$ , where  $\phi$  is the complement of the “eccentric” angle  $\theta$  (Fig. 152). Hence,

$$l = a \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \phi} \cdot d\phi.$$

The right member is an **elliptic integral of the second class**, which is usually written, for brevity's sake,  $E(k, \phi)$ , since  $k$  is usually put in place of our  $e$ . The integral may also be written

$$E(k, x) = \int_0^x \sqrt{\frac{1 - k^2x^2}{1 - x^2}} dx, \quad (8)$$

by a suitable substitution. We are also acquainted with **elliptic integrals of the third class**,

$$\Pi(n, k, \phi) = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \frac{d\phi}{(1 + n \sin^2 \phi) \sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 \phi}}; \text{ or, } \Pi(n, k, x), \text{ etc., } (9)$$

where  $n$  is any real number, called *Legendre's parameter*. If the limits of the first and second classes of integrals are 1 and 0, instead of  $x$  and 0 in the first case and  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$  and 0 in the second

case, the integrals are said to be *complete*. Complete elliptic integrals of the first and second classes are denoted by the letters  $F$  and  $E$  respectively.

The integral of an irrational polynomial of the second degree, of the type,

$$\int \sqrt{a + bx + cx^2} \cdot X \cdot dx; \text{ or, } \int \frac{X dx}{\sqrt{a + bx + cx^2}}$$

(where  $X$  is a rational function of  $x$ ), can be made to depend on algebraic, logarithmic, or on trigonometrical functions, which can be evaluated in the usual way. But if the irrational polynomial is of the third, or fourth degree, as, for example,

$$\int \sqrt{a + bx + cx^2 + dx^3 + ex^4} X dx;$$

the integration cannot be performed in so simple a manner. Such integrals are also called **elliptic integrals**. If higher powers than  $x^4$  appear under the radical sign, the resulting integrals are said to be **ultra-elliptic or hyper-elliptic integrals**. That part of an elliptic integral which cannot be expressed in terms of algebraic, logarithmic, or trigonometrical functions is always one of the three classes just mentioned.

Legendre has calculated short tables of the first and second class of elliptic integrals; the third class can be connected with these by known formulæ. Given  $k$  and  $x$ ,  $F(k, \phi)$  or  $E(k, \phi)$  can be read off directly from the tables. The following excerpt will give an idea of how the tables run:

NUMERICAL VALUES OF  $F(k, \phi)$ ;  $\sin \alpha = k$ .

$\phi$ .	$\alpha = 0^\circ$ .	$\alpha = 5^\circ$ .	$\alpha = 10^\circ$ .	$\alpha = 15^\circ$ .	$\alpha = 20^\circ$ .	$\alpha = 25^\circ$ .
$41^\circ$	0.7156	0.7160	0.7173	0.7193	0.7222	0.7258
$42^\circ$	0.7330	0.7335	0.7348	0.7370	0.7401	0.7440
$43^\circ$	0.7505	0.7510	0.7524	0.7548	0.7581	0.7622

EXAMPLE.—Show that  $\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{\sin x}} = \int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{\cos x}} = \sqrt{2} \int \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{2} \sin^2 \phi}}$ , provided  $\sqrt{2} \cdot \sin \frac{1}{2}x = \sin \phi$ . Hint. The first step follows from (6), page 242. Next by differentiation,  $\cos \frac{1}{2}x dx = \sqrt{2} \cdot \cos \phi d\phi$ ;  $2 \sin^2 \frac{1}{2}x = \sin^2 \phi$ . Hence,

$$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{\cos x}} = \int \frac{\sqrt{2} \cdot \cos \frac{1}{2}x \cdot dx}{\sqrt{2} \cdot \cos \frac{1}{2}x \sqrt{\cos x}} = \int \frac{\sqrt{2} \cdot \cos \phi \cdot d\phi}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \frac{1}{2}x} \sqrt{1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{1}{2}x}}, \text{ etc.}$$

from (20) and (35), page 612.

We cannot spare space to go farther into this matter. Mascart and Joubert have tables of the coefficient of mutual induction of electric currents, in their *Electricity and Magnetism* (2, 126, 1888), calculated from  $E$  and  $F$  above. A. G. Greenhill's *The Applications of Elliptic Functions* (London, 1892), is the text-book on this subject.

### § 138. The Exact Linear Differential Equation.

A very simple relation exists between the coefficients of an exact differential equation which may be used to test whether the equation is exact or not. Take the equation,

$$X_0 \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} + X_1 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + X_2 \frac{dy}{dx} + X_3 y = R, \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where  $X_0, X_1, \dots, R$  are functions of  $x$ . Let their successive differential coefficients be indicated by dashes, thus  $X', X'', \dots$

Since  $X_0 \cdot d^3y/dx^3$  has been obtained by the differentiation of  $X_0 \cdot d^2y/dx^2$ , this latter is necessarily the first term of the integral of (1). But,

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( X_0 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right) = X_0 \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} + X'_0 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}.$$

Subtract the right-hand side of this equation from (1).

$$(X_1 - X'_0) \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + X_2 \frac{dy}{dx} + X_3 y = R. \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

Again, the first term of this expression is a derivative of  $(X_1 - X'_0)dy/dx$ . This, therefore, is the second term of the integral of (1). Hence, by differentiation and subtraction, as before,

$$(X_2 - X'_1 + X''_0) \frac{dy}{dx} + X_3 y = R. \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

This equation may be deduced by the differentiation of  $(X_2 - X'_1 + X''_0)y$ , provided the first differential coefficient of  $(X_2 - X'_1 + X''_0)$  with respect to  $x$ , is equal to  $X_3$ , that is to say,

$$X'_2 - X''_1 + X'''_0 = X_3; \text{ or, } X_3 - X'_2 + X''_1 - X'''_0 = 0. \quad (4)$$

But if this is really the origin of (3), the original equation (1) has been reduced to a lower order, namely,

$$X_0 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + (X_1 - X'_0) \frac{dy}{dx} + (X_2 - X'_1 + X''_0)y = \int R dx + C_1. \quad (5)$$

This equation is called the first integral of (1), because the order

of the original equation has been lowered unity, by a process of integration. Condition (4) is *a test of the exactness of a differential equation*.

If the first integral is an exact equation, we can reduce it, in the same way, to another first integral of (1). The process of reduction may be repeated until an inexact equation appears, or until  $y$  itself is obtained. Hence, *an exact equation of the  $n$ th order has  $n$  independent first integrals*.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Is  $x^5 \cdot d^3y/dx^3 + 15x^4 \cdot d^2y/dx^2 + 60x^3 \cdot dy/dx + 60x^2y = e^x$  an exact equation? From (4),  $X_3 = 60x^2$ ;  $X'_2 = 180x^2$ ;  $X''_1 = 180x^2$ ;  $X'''_0 = 60x^2$ . Therefore,  $X_3 - X'_2 + X''_1 - X'''_0 = 0$  and the equation is exact. Solve the given equation. Ansr.  $x^5y = e^x + C_1x^2 + C_2x + C_3$ . Hints. From (5), the first integral is  $(x^5D^2 + 10x^4D + 20x^3)y = e^x + C_1$ . This is exact, because the new values of  $X$  for the first integral just obtained  $X_2 - X'_1 + X''_0 = 0$ , since,  $20x^3 - 40x^3 + 20x^3 = 0$ . For the next first integral, we have

$$X_2 \frac{dy}{dx} + (X_1 - X'_0)y = \int e^x dx + \int C_1 dx + C_2. \quad (6)$$

Hence  $(x^5D + 5x^4)y = e^x + C_1x + C_2$ . This is exact, because the new values of  $X$ , namely,  $X_1 - X'_0 = 0$ . Hence, the third and last first integral is  $x^5y = \int e^x dx + \int C_1 x dx + \int C_2 dx + C_3$ , etc.

(2) Solve  $x d^3y/dx^3 + (x^2 - 3) d^2y/dx^2 + 4x \cdot dy/dx + 2y = 0$ , as far as possible, by successive reduction. The process can be employed twice, the residue is a linear equation of the first order, not exact. Complete solution:  $x^{-5}e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2}y = C_1 \int x^{-5}e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx + C_2 \int x^{-6}e^{\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx + C_3$ .

There is another *quick practical test for exact differential equations* (Forsyth) which is not so general as the preceding. When the terms in  $X$  are either in the form of  $ax^m$ , or of the sum of expressions of this type,  $x^m d^n y/dx^n$  is a perfect differential coefficient, if  $m < n$ . This coefficient can then be integrated whatever be the value of  $y$ . If  $m = n$  or  $m > n$ , the integration cannot be performed by the method for exact equations. To apply the test, remove all the terms in which  $m$  is less than  $n$ , if the remainder is a perfect differential coefficient, the equation is exact and the integration may be performed.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Test  $x^3 \cdot d^4y/dx^4 + x^2 \cdot d^3y/dx^3 + x \cdot dy/dx + y = 0$ .  $x \cdot dy/dx + y$  remains. This has evidently been formed by the operation  $D(xy)$ , hence the equation is a perfect differential.

(2) Apply the test to  $(x^3D^4 + x^2D^3 + x^2D + 2x)y = \sin x$ .  $x^2 \cdot dy/dx + 2xy$  remains. This is a perfect differential, formed from  $D(x^2y)$ . The equation is exact.

### § 139. The Velocity of Consecutive Chemical Reactions.

While investigating the rate of decomposition of phosphine, page 224, we had occasion to point out that the action may take place in two stages:—

STAGE I.  $\text{PH}_3 = \text{P} + 3\text{H}$ . STAGE II.  $4\text{P} = \text{P}_4$ ;  $2\text{H} = \text{H}_2$ .

The former change alone determines the velocity of the whole reaction. The physical meaning of this is that the speed of the reaction which occurs during the second stage, is immeasurably faster than the speed of the first. Experiment quite fails to reveal the complex nature of the complete reaction. J. Walker illustrates this by the following analogy (*Proc. Royal Soc. Edin.*, 22, 22, 1898): “The time occupied in the transmission of a telegraphic message depends both on the rate of transmission along the conducting wire and on the rate of the messenger who delivers the telegram; but it is obviously this last, slower rate that is of really practical importance in determining the total time of transmission”.

Suppose, for example, a substance A forms an intermediate compound M, and this, in turn, forms a final product B. If the speed of the reaction  $\text{A} = \text{M}$ , is one gram per  $\frac{1}{1000000}$  second, when the speed of the reaction  $\text{M} = \text{B}$ , is one gram per hour, the observed “order” of the complete reaction

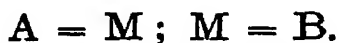


will be fixed by that of the slower reaction,  $\text{M} = \text{B}$ , because the methods used for measuring the rates of chemical reactions are not sensitive to changes so rapid as the assumed rate of transformation of A into M. Whatever the “order” of this latter reaction,  $\text{M} = \text{B}$  is alone accessible to measurement. If, therefore,  $\text{A} = \text{B}$  is of the first, second, or  $n$ th order, we must understand that one of the subsidiary reactions:  $\text{A} = \text{M}$ , or  $\text{M} = \text{B}$ , is (i) an immeasurably fast reaction, accompanied by (ii) a slower measurable change of the first, second or  $n$ th order, according to the particular system under investigation.

If, however, the velocities of the two reactions are of the same order of magnitude, the “order” of the complete reaction will not fall under any of the simple types discussed on page 218, and therefore some changes will have to be made in the differential equations representing the course of the reaction. Let us study some examples.

*I. Two consecutive unimolecular reactions.*

Let one gram molecule of the substance A be taken. At the end of a certain time  $t$ , the system contains  $x$  of A,  $y$  of M,  $z$  of B. The reactions are



The rate of diminution of  $x$  is evidently

$$-\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1x, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where  $k_1$  denotes the velocity constant of the transformation of A to M. The rate of formation of B is

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = k_2y, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

where  $k_2$  is the velocity constant of the transformation of M to B. Again, the rate at which M accumulates in the system is evidently the difference in the rate of diminution of  $x$  and the rate of increase of  $z$ , or

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = k_1x - k_2y. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

The speed of the chemical reactions,



is fully determined by this set of differential equations. When the relations between a set of variables involves a set of equations of this nature, the result is said to be a system of **simultaneous differential equations**.

In a great number of physical problems, the interrelations of the variables are represented in the form of a system of such equations. The simplest class occurs when each of the dependent variables is a function of the independent variable.

The simultaneous equations are said to be solved when each variable is expressed in terms of the independent variable, or else when a number of equations between the different variables can be obtained free from differential coefficients. To solve the present set of differential equations, first differentiate (2),

$$\frac{d^2z}{dt^2} - k_2\frac{dy}{dt} = 0;$$

Add and subtract  $k_1k_2y$ , substitute for  $dy/dt$  from (3) and for  $k_2y$  from (2), we thus obtain

$$\frac{d^2z}{dt^2} + (k_1 + k_2)\frac{dz}{dt} - k_1k_2(x + y) = 0.$$

But from the conditions of the experiment,

$$x + y + z = 1, \therefore z - 1 = -(x + y).$$

Hence, the last equation may be written,

$$\frac{d^2(z - 1)}{dt^2} + (k_1 + k_2) \frac{d(z - 1)}{dt} + k_1 k_2 (z - 1) = 0. \quad (4)$$

This linear equation of the second order with constant coefficients, is to be solved for  $z - 1$  in the usual manner (§ 131). At sight, therefore,

$$z - 1 = C_1 e^{-k_1 t} + C_2 e^{-k_2 t}. \quad (5)$$

But  $z = 0$ , when  $t = 0$ ,

$$\therefore C_1 + C_2 = -1. \quad (6)$$

Differentiate (5). From (2)  $dz/dt = 0$ , when  $t = 0$ . Therefore making the necessary substitutions,

$$-C_1 k_1 - C_2 k_2 = 0. \quad (7)$$

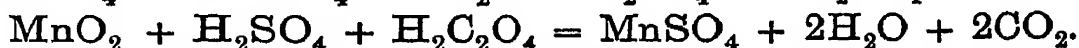
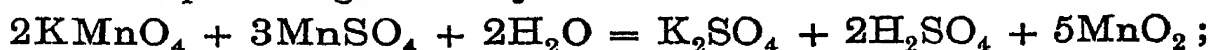
From (6) and (7),

$$C_1 = k_2/(k_1 - k_2); C_2 = -k_1/(k_1 - k_2).$$

The final result may therefore be written,

$$z - 1 = \frac{k_2}{k_1 - k_2} e^{-k_1 t} - \frac{k_1}{k_1 - k_2} e^{-k_2 t}. \quad (8)$$

Harcourt and Esson have studied the rate of reduction of potassium permanganate by oxalic acid.



By a suitable arrangement of the experimental conditions this reaction may be used to test equations (5) or (8).

Let  $x, y, z$ , respectively denote the amounts of  $\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_7, \text{MnO}_2$  and  $\text{MnO}$  (in combination) in the system. The above workers found that  $C_1 = 28.5$ ;  $C_2 = 2.7$ ;  $e^{-k_1} = .82$ ;  $e^{-k_2} = .98$ . The following table places the above suppositions beyond doubt.

$t$ Minutes.	$z-1.$		$t$ Minutes	$z-1.$	
	Found.	Calculated.		Found.	Calculated.
0.5	25.85	25.9	3.0	10.45	10.4
1.0	21.55	21.4	3.5	8.95	9.0
1.5	17.9	17.8	4.0	7.7	7.8
2.0	14.9	14.9	4.5	6.65	6.6
2.5	12.55	12.5	5.0	5.7	5.8

EXAMPLE.—We could have deduced equation (8) by another line of reasoning. If  $x$  denotes the amount of A transformed into M in the time  $t$ , and  $z$



the amount of M transformed into B at the time  $t$ , then, if  $a$  denotes the amount of A present at the beginning of the experiment,

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = k_1(a - y); \quad \frac{dz}{dt} = k_2(y - z). \quad (9)$$

From the first equation,  $y = a(1 - e^{-k_1 t})$ . Substitute this result in the second equation, and we get

$$\frac{dz}{dt} + k_2 z - k_2 a(1 - e^{-k_1 t}) = 0.$$

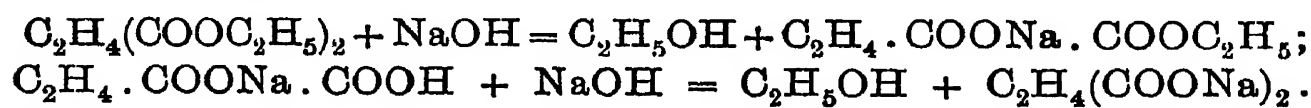
From Ex. (5), page 388, if  $z = 0$ , when  $t = 0$ , we get

$$z = Ce^{-k_2 t} + a - \frac{k_2 a}{k_2 - k_1} e^{-k_1 t}; \quad C = \frac{k_2 a}{k_2 - k_1} - a; \quad (10)$$

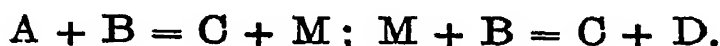
and we get, finally, an expression resembling (8) above. Equation (8) has also been employed to represent the decay of the radioactivity excited in bodies exposed to radium and to thorium emanation.

## II. Two bimolecular consecutive reactions.

During the saponification of ethyl succinate in the presence of sodium hydroxide.



Or,



Let  $x$  denote the amount of ethyl succinate, A, which has been transformed at the time  $t$ ;  $a - x$  will then denote the amount remaining in the solution at the same time. Similarly, if the system contains  $b$  of sodium hydroxide, B, at the beginning of the reaction, at the time  $t$ ,  $x$  of this will have been consumed in the formation of sodium ethyl succinate, M, and  $y$  in the formation of sodium succinate, D, hence  $b - x - y$  of sodium hydroxide, B, and  $x - y$  of sodium ethyl succinate, M, will be present in the system at the time  $t$ . The rate of formation of sodium ethyl succinate, M, is therefore

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1(a - x)(b - x - y); \quad (11)$$

and the rate of formation of sodium succinate, D, will be

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = k_2(x - y)(b - x - y). \quad (12)$$

By division, if  $k_2/k_1 = K$ ,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{K}{a - x}y = \frac{Kx}{a - x}.$$

This equation has been integrated in Ex. (6), p. 388. Hence

$$y = \frac{1}{K-1} \left\{ \frac{(a-x)^K}{a^K-1} - a + Kx \right\}. \quad (13)$$

$$\therefore \frac{dx}{dt} = k_1(a-x) \left\{ b-x - \frac{(a-x)^K}{(K-1)a^{K-1}} + \frac{a}{K-1} - \frac{Kx}{K-1} \right\}. \quad (14)$$

This can only be integrated when we know the numerical value of  $K$ . As a rule, in dealing with laboratory measurements, it will be found most convenient to use the methods for approximate integration since the integration of (14) is usually impracticable, even when we know the value of  $K$ .

### III. A unimolecular reaction followed by a bimolecular reaction.

Let  $x$  denote the amount of A which remains untransformed after the elapse of an interval of time  $t$ ,  $y$  the amount of M, and  $z$  the amount of B present in the system after the elapse of the same interval of time  $t$ . The reaction is



Hence show that the rate of diminution of A, and the rate of diminution of M (or of B) are respectively

$$-\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1x; -\frac{dz}{dt} = k_2yz, \quad (15)$$

the rate of formation of  $M^2$  is the difference between the rate of formation of M by the reaction, and the velocity of transformation of M into C, by the second reaction and

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dt} = k_1x - k_2yz. \quad (16)$$

If  $x, y, z$ , could be measured independently, it would be sufficient to solve these equations as in I, but if  $x$  and  $y$  are determined together, we must proceed a little differently. If there are  $a$  equivalents of A, and of B originally present, then, at the time  $t$  we shall have  $a-x = a-z+y$ , or  $y = z-x$ . Divide (16) by the first of equations (15); substitute  $dy = dz - dx$  in the result; put  $y = z-x$ ; divide by  $z^2$ , and we get

$$\frac{1}{z^2} \cdot \frac{dz}{dx} + \frac{K}{z} - \frac{K}{x} = 0, \quad (17)$$

where  $K$  has been written in place of  $k_2/k_1$ . The solution of this equation has been previously determined, Ex. (3), page 389, in the form

$$Ke^{-Kx} \left\{ C_1 - \log x + Kx - \frac{1}{1 \cdot 2^2} (Kx)^2 + \dots \right\} z = 1. \quad (18)$$

In some of Harcourt and Esson's experiments,  $C_1 = 4.68$ ;  $k_1 = .69$ ;

$k_2 = .006364$ . From the first of equation (9), it is easy to show that  $x = ae^{-k_1t}$ . Where does  $a$  come from? What does it mean? Obviously, the value of  $x$  when  $t = 0$ . Hence verify the third column in the following table :—

$t$ Minutes.	$z$ .	
	Found.	Calculated.
2	51.9	51.6
3	42.4	42.9
4	35.4	35.4
5	29.8	29.7

After the lapse of six minutes, the value of  $x$  was found to be negligibly small. The terms succeeding  $\log x$  in (18) may, therefore, be omitted without committing any sensible error. Substitute  $x = ae^{-k_1t}$  in the remainder,

$$\frac{k_2}{k_1}(C_1 - \log a + k_1t)z = 1; \text{ or } (C'_1 + t)z = \frac{1}{k_2},$$

where  $C'_1 = C_1/k_1 - (\log a)/k_1$ . Harcourt and Esson found that  $C'_1 = 0.1$ , and  $1/k_2 = 157$ . Hence, in continuation of the preceding table, these investigators obtained the results shown in the following table. The agreement between the theoretical and experimental numbers is remarkable.

$t$ Minutes.	$z$ .		$t$ Minutes.	$z$ .	
	Found.	Calculated.		Found.	Calculated.
6	25.7	25.7	10	15.5	15.5
7	22.1	22.1	15	10.4	10.4
8	19.4	19.4	20	7.8	7.8
9	17.3	17.3	30	5.5	5.2

The theoretical numbers are based on the assumption that the chemical change consists in the gradual formation of a substance which at the same time slowly disappears by reason of its reaction with a proportional quantity of another substance.

This really means that the so-called "initial disturbances" in chemical reactions, are due to the fact that the speed during one stage of the reaction, is faster than during the other. The magnitude of the initial disturbances depends on the relative magnitudes

of  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ . The observed velocity in the steady state depends on the difference between the steady diminution  $-dx/dt$  and the steady rise  $dz/dt$ . If  $k_2$  is infinitely great in comparison with  $k_1$ , (8) reduces to

$$z = a(1 - e^{-k_1 t}),$$

which will be immediately recognised as another way of writing the familiar equation

$$k_1 = \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{a}{a - z}.$$

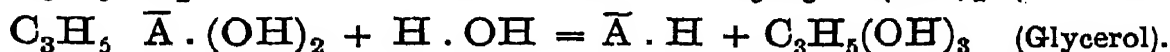
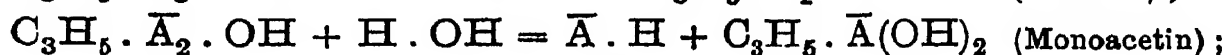
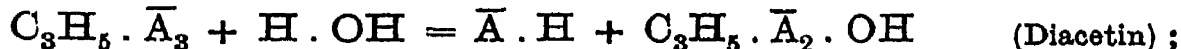
So far as practical work is concerned, it is necessary that the solutions of the differential equations shall not be so complex as to preclude the possibility of experimental verification.

#### IV. Three consecutive bimolecular reactions.

In the hydrolysis of triacetin,



where  $\bar{\text{A}}$  has been written for  $\text{CH}_3 \cdot \text{COO}$ , there is every reason to believe that the reaction takes place in three stages:



These reactions are interdependent. The rate of formation of glycerol is conditioned by the rate of formation of monoacetin; the rate of monoacetin depends, in turn, upon the rate of formation of diacetin. There are, therefore, three simultaneous reactions of the second order taking place in the system.

Let  $a$  denote the initial concentration (gram molecules per unit volume) of triacetin,  $b$  the concentration of the water; let  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$ , denote the number of molecules of mono-, di- and triacetin hydrolyzed at the end of  $t$  minutes. The system then contains  $a - z$  molecules of triacetin,  $z - y$ , of diacetin,  $y - x$ , of monoacetin, and  $b - (x + y + z)$  molecules of water. The rate of hydrolysis is therefore completely determined by the equations:

$$dx/dt = k_1(y - x)(b - x - y - z); \quad . \quad . \quad (19)$$

$$dy/dt = k_2(z - y)(b - x - y - z); \quad . \quad . \quad (20)$$

$$dz/dt = k_3(a - z)(b - x - y - z); \quad . \quad . \quad (21)$$

where  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$ ,  $k_3$ , represent the velocity coefficients (page 63) of the respective reactions.

Geitel tested the assumption:  $k_1 = k_2 = k_3$ . Hence dividing (21) by (19) and by (20), he obtained

$$dz/dy = (a - z)/(z - y); \quad dz/dx = (a - z)/(y - x). \quad (22)$$

From the first of these equations,

$$\frac{dy}{dz} + y \frac{1}{a - z} = \frac{z}{a - z},$$

which can be integrated as a linear equation of the first order. The constant is equated by noting that if  $a = 1$ ,  $z = 0$ ,  $y = 0$ . The reader might do this as an exercise on § 125. The answer is

$$y = z + (a - z) \log(a - z). \quad (23)$$

Now substitute (23) in the second of equations (22), rearrange terms and integrate as a further exercise on linear equations of the first order. The final result is,

$$x = z + (a - z) \log(a - z) - \frac{a - z}{z} \{\log(a - z)\}^2. \quad (24)$$

Geitel then assigned arbitrary numerical values to  $z$  (say from 0.1 to 1.0), calculated the corresponding amounts of  $x$  and  $y$  from (23) and (24) and compared the results with his experimental numbers. For experimental and other details the original memoir must be consulted.

A study of the differential equations representing the mutual conversion of red into yellow, and yellow into red phosphorus, will be found in a paper by G. Lemoine in the *Ann. Chim. Phys.* [4], 27, 289, 1872. There is a series of papers by R. Wegscheider bearing on this subject in *Monats. Chemie*, 22, 749, 1901; *Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 30, 593, 1899; 34, 290, 1900; 35, 513, 1900; J. Wogrinz, *ib.*, 44, 569, 1903; H. Kühl, *ib.*, 44, 385, 1903. See also papers by A. V. Harcourt and W. Esson, *Phil. Trans.*, 156, 193, 1866; A. C. Geitel, *Journ. prakt. Chem.* [2], 55, 429, 1897; 57, 113, 1898; J. Walker, *Proc. Roy. Soc. Edin.*, 22, 22, 1898. It is somewhat surprising that Harcourt and Esson's investigations had not received more attention from the point of view of simultaneous and dependent reactions. The indispensable differential equations, simple as they are, might perhaps account for this. But chemists, in reality, have more to do with this type of reaction than any other. The day is surely past when the study of a particular reaction is abandoned simply because it "won't go" according to the stereotyped velocity equations of § 77.

### § 140. Simultaneous Equations with Constant Coefficients.

By way of practice it will be convenient to study a few more examples of simultaneous equations, since they are so common in many branches of physics. The motion of a particle in space is determined by a set of three differential equations which determine the position of the moving particle at any instant of time. Thus, if  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $Z$ , represent the three components of a force,  $F$ , acting on a particle of mass  $m$ , Newton's law, page 396, tells us that

$$X = m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}; \quad Y = m \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}; \quad Z = m \frac{d^2z}{dt^2},$$

and it is necessary to integrate these equations in order to represent  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$  as functions of the time  $t$ . The solution of this set of equations contains six arbitrary constants which define the position and velocity of the moving body with respect to the  $x$ -,  $y$ -, and the  $z$ -axis when we began to take its motion into consideration.

In order to solve a set of simultaneous equations, there must be the same number of equations as there are independent variables. Quite an analogous thing occurs with the simultaneous equations in ordinary algebra. The methods used for the solution of these equations are analogous to those employed for similar equations in algebra. The operations here involved are chiefly processes of elimination and substitution, supplemented by differentiation or integration at various stages of the computation. The use of the symbol of operation  $D$  often shortens the work.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $dx/dt + ay = 0$ ,  $dy/dt + bx = 0$ . Differentiate the first, multiply the second by  $a$ . Subtract and  $y$  disappears. Hence writing  $ab = m^2$ ,  $x = C_1 e^{mt} + C_2 e^{-mt}$ ; or,  $y = C_2 \sqrt{b/a} \cdot e^{-mt} - C_1 \sqrt{b/a} \cdot e^{mt}$ . We might have obtained an equation in  $y$ , and substituted it in the second. Thus four constants appear in the result. But one pair of these constants can be expressed in terms of the other two. Thus: two of the constants, therefore, are not arbitrary and independent, while the integration constant is arbitrary and independent. It is always best to avoid an unnecessary multiplication of constants by deducing the other variables from the first without integration. The number of arbitrary constants is always equal to the sum of the highest orders of the set of differential equations under consideration.

(2) Solve  $dx/dt + y = 3x$ ;  $dy/dt - y = x$ . Differentiate the first. Subtract each of the given equations from the result.  $(D^2 - 4D + 4)x = 0$  remains. Solve as usual.  $x = (C_1 + C_2 t)e^{2t}$ . Substitute this value of  $x$  in the first of the given equations and  $y = (C_1 - C_2 + C_2 t)e^{2t}$ .

(3) The rotation of a particle in a rigid plane, is represented by the equa-

tions  $dx/dt = \mu y$ ;  $dy/dt = \mu x$ . To solve these, differentiate the first, multiply the second by  $\mu$ , etc. Finally  $x = C_1 \cos \mu t + C_2 \sin \mu t$ ;  $y = C'_1 \cos \mu t + C'_2 \sin \mu t$ . To find the relation between these constants, substitute these values in the first equation and  $-\mu C_1 \sin \mu t + \mu C_2 \cos \mu t = \mu C'_1 \cos \mu t + \mu C'_2 \sin \mu t$ , or  $C_1 = -C'_2$  and  $C_2 = C'_1$ .

(4) Solve  $d^2x/dt^2 = -n^2x$   $d^2y/dt^2 = -n^2y$ . Each equation is treated separately as on page 400, thus  $x = C_1 \cos nt + C_2 \sin nt$ ;  $y = C'_1 \cos nt + C'_2 \sin nt$ . Eliminate  $t$  so that

$$(C'_1x - C_1y)^2 + (C'_2x - C_2y)^2 = (C_1C'_2 - C_2C'_1)^2, \text{ etc.}$$

The result represents the motion of a particle in an elliptic path, subject to a central gravitational force.

(5) Solve  $dy/dx + 3y - 4x = 5e^{5x}$ ;  $dz/dx + y - 2x = -3e^{5x}$ . Differentiate the first and solve for  $dz/dx$ ; substitute this value of  $dz/dx$  in the second equation. We thus get a linear equation of the second order:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \frac{dy}{dx} - 2y = 3e^{5x}; \therefore y = C_1e^x + C_2e^{-2x} + \frac{1}{18}e^{5x},$$

when solved by the usual method. Now differentiate the last equation, and substitute the value of  $dy/dx$  so found in the first of the given equations. Also substitute the value of  $y$  just determined in the same equation. We thus get  $z = C_1e^x + \frac{1}{2}C_2e^{-2x} - \frac{1}{18}e^{5x}$ .

(6) R. Wegscheider (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 41, 52, 1902) has proposed the equations  $dx/dt = k_1(a - x - y)$ ;  $dy/dt = k_2(a - x - y)(b - y)$ , to represent the speed of hydrolysis of sulphonic esters by water. Hence show that

$$\int \frac{dx}{a - (1 + bk)x + \frac{1}{2}bK^2x^2} = k_1t + C.$$

Hint. Divide the one equation by the other; expand  $e^{-x}$ ; reject all but the first three terms of the series.

(7) J. W. Mellor and L. Bradshaw (*Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 48, 358, 1904) solved the set of equations

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = k_1(a - X); \frac{du}{dt} = k_2(x - u); \frac{dv}{dt} = k_3(y - v)$$

with the assumption that  $X = x + y + u + v$ ;  $v = k_4u$ ;  $u = v = x = y = 0$  when  $t = 0$ . Show that

$$u = \frac{a}{2(k_4 + 1)} \left( 1 - \frac{b}{b - k_1} e^{-k_1 t} + \frac{k^2}{b - k_1} e^{-kt} \right),$$

if  $b$  is put in place of  $2k_2k_3(k_4 + 1)/(k_2 + k_3k_4)$ . See Ex. (5), page 390.

(8) J. J. Thomson (*Conduction of Electricity through Gases*, Cambridge, 86, 1903) has shown that the motion of a charged particle of mass  $m$ , and charge  $e$ , between two parallel plates with a potential gradient  $E$  between them when a magnetic field of induction  $H$  is applied normal to the plates, is given by the equations

$$m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = Ee - He \frac{dy}{dt}; \quad m \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = He \frac{dx}{dt}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

provided that there is no resisting medium (say air) between the plates. To solve these equations with the initial conditions that  $x, y, \dot{x}, \dot{y}$ , are all zero, put

$$p = \frac{dx}{dt}; \therefore \frac{dp}{dt} = a - b \frac{dy}{dt}; \quad \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = bp; \therefore \frac{d^2p}{dt^2} = -b^2p.$$

Hence, from page 405, and remembering that  $\dot{x} = 0$ , when  $t = 0$ ,

$$p = C_1 \sin bt + C_2 \cos bt; \quad C_2 = 0; \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = C_1 \sin bt; \quad \therefore x = \frac{C_1}{b}(1 - \cos bt), \quad (2)$$

since, when  $t = 0$ ,  $x = 0$ , and the integration constant is equal to  $C_1/b$ . From the third of equations (2), and the second of equations (1),

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = bC_1 \sin bt; \quad \therefore \frac{dy}{dt} = -C_1 \cos bt + C_1,$$

the integration constant is equal to  $C_1$  when  $dy/dt = 0$ , and  $t = 0$ ; again integrating, and we get  $y = C_1(bt - \sin bt)/b$ , since  $y = 0$ , when  $t = 0$ . To evaluate the constant  $C_1$ , substitute for  $\ddot{x}$  and  $\dot{y}$ , from (2) and the above, in the first of equations (1). We find  $C_1 = a/b$ , and consequently, if  $a = Em/H^2e$ , and  $b = He/m$ .

$$x = a(1 - \cos bt); \quad y = a(bt - \sin bt), \quad (3)$$

Let us follow the motion of a particle moving on the path represented by equations (3). Of course we can eliminate  $bt$  and get one equation connecting  $x$  and  $y$ , but it is better to retain  $bt$  as the calculation is then more simple. When

$$\begin{array}{llllll} bt = 0, & \pi, & 2\pi, & 3\pi, & 4\pi, & 5\pi, \dots; \\ x = 0, & 2a, & 0, & 2a, & 0, & 2a, \dots; \\ y = 0, & a\pi, & 2a\pi, & 3a\pi, & 4a\pi, & 5a\pi, \dots \end{array}$$

Hence,  $x$  oscillates to and fro between 0 and  $2a$ ;  $y$  too is periodic, repeating itself in the time  $2\pi/b$ ; passing through a distance  $2a\pi$  from the origin every period. In other words, the path of an electron moving under the above conditions is that of a cycloid traced by the rim of a wheel of radius  $a$  rolling upon a plate  $Oy$ , Fig. 153.

(9) Two vessels, capacity  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ , are filled with the same gas but at different pressures  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  respectively. Assume that the vessels are connected by a capillary tube and that the quantity of gas which flows from one vessel to the other is proportional to the difference in the squares of the pressures in the two vessels, and to the time. What are the pressures,  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , in each vessel at the end of  $t$  seconds? (Lorentz.) The quantity of gas,  $dQ$ , which flows through the capillary during the infinitely small interval of time  $dt$  is by hypothesis

$$dQ = a(x_1^2 - x_2^2)dt, \quad (4)$$

where  $a$  is a constant. Let  $b$  denote the quantity of gas in unit volume,  $bv$  will therefore denote the amount of gas which occupies  $v$  volumes at atmospheric pressure. If the pressure changes by an amount  $dx$ , the quantity of gas,  $dQ$ , changes an amount  $bv_2 dx$ , hence,

$$dQ = bv_2 \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial t} dt; \quad dQ = -bv_1 \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial t} dt. \quad (5)$$

The difference in sign shows that the gas which leaves one vessel enters the other. The temperature is of course supposed to remain constant. From (4) and (5),

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -\frac{a}{bv_1}(x_1^2 - x_2^2); \quad \frac{dx_2}{dt} = \frac{a}{bv_2}(x_1^2 - x_2^2). \quad (6)$$

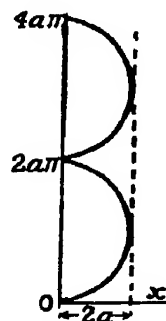


FIG. 153.



But the total mass of gas remains constantly equal to  $ac$ , say

$$\therefore v_1x_1 + v_2x_2 = c; \therefore c = p_1v_1 + p_2v_2, \quad (7)$$

by Boyle's law. Multiply the first of equations (6) with  $x_2v_1v_2$ , and the second by  $x_1v_1v_2$ ; subtract the latter from the former; divide by  $x_2^2$ ; substitute  $x = x_1/x_2$  and

$$v_1v_2\frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{ac}{b}(x^2 - 1)$$

remains. Solve this equation in the usual way, and we get

$$\frac{v_1v_2}{2} \log \frac{x+1}{x-1} = \frac{act}{b} + C; \text{ or, } \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{(x_1+x_2)(p_1-p_2)}{(x_1-x_2)(p_1+p_2)} = \frac{2ac}{bv_1v_2}.$$

From this equation and the first of equations (7), it is possible to calculate  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  at any time  $t$ .

(10) If two adjacent circuits have currents  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ , then, according to the theory of electromagnetic induction,

$$M\frac{dC_1}{dt} + L_2\frac{dC_2}{dt} + R_2C_2 = E_2; \quad M\frac{dC_2}{dt} + L_1\frac{dC_1}{dt} + R_1C_1 = E_1,$$

where  $R_1, R_2$ , denote the resistances of the two circuits,  $L_1, L_2$ , the coefficients of self-induction,  $E_1, E_2$ , the electromotive forces of the respective circuits and  $M$  the coefficient of mutual induction. All the coefficients are supposed constant.

First, solve these equations on the assumption that  $E_1 = E_2 = 0$ . Assume that  $C_1 = ae^{mt}$ ; and  $C_2 = be^{mt}$ , satisfy the given equations. Differentiate each of these variables with respect to  $t$ , and substitute in the original equation

$$aMm + b(L_2m + R_2) = 0; \quad bMm + a(L_1m + R_1) = 0.$$

Multiply these equations so that

$$(L_1L_2 + M^2)m^2 + (L_1R_2 + R_1L_2)m + R_1R_2 = 0.$$

For physical reasons, the induction  $L_1L_2$  must always be greater than  $M$ . The roots of this quadratic must, therefore, be negative and real (page 354), and

$$C_1 = a_1e^{-m_1t}, \text{ or, } a_2e^{-m_2t}; \quad C_2 = b_1e^{-m_1t}, \text{ or, } b_2e^{-m_2t}.$$

Hence, from the preceding equation,

$$a_1Mm_1 + b_1L_2m_1 + b_1R_2 = 0; \text{ or } a_1/b_1 = -(L_2m_1 + R_2)/Mm_1;$$

similarly,  $a_2/b_2 = -Mm_2/(L_1m_2 + R_1)$ . Combining the particular solutions for  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ , we get the required solutions.

$$C_1 = a_1e^{-m_1t} + a_2e^{-m_2t}; \quad C_2 = b_1e^{-m_1t} + b_2e^{-m_2t}.$$

Second, if  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  have some constant value,

$$C_1 = E_1/R_1 + a_1e^{-m_1t} + a_2e^{-m_2t}; \quad C_2 = E_2/R_2 + b_1e^{-m_1t} + b_2e^{-m_2t},$$

are the required solutions.

## § 141. Simultaneous Equations with Variable Coefficients.

The general type of simultaneous equations of the first order, is

$$\left. \begin{aligned} P_1dx + Q_1dy + R_1dz &= 0; \\ P_2dx + Q_2dy + R_2dz &= 0, \dots \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (1)$$

where the coefficients are functions of  $x, y, z$ . These equations can often be expressed in the form<sup>1</sup>

$$\frac{dx}{P} = \frac{dy}{Q} = \frac{dz}{R}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

which is to be looked upon as a typical set of simultaneous equations of the first order. If one pair of these equations involves only two differentials, the equations can be solved in the usual way, and the result used to deduce values for the other variables, as in the second of the subjoined examples.

When the members of a set of equations are symmetrical, the solution can often be simplified by taking advantage of a well-known theorem<sup>2</sup> in algebra—ratio. According to this,

$$\frac{dx}{P} = \frac{dy}{Q} = \frac{dz}{R} = \frac{l dx + m dy + n dz}{lP + mQ + nR} = \frac{l' dx + m' dy + n' dz}{l'P + m'Q + n'R} = \dots, \quad (3)$$

where  $l, m, n, l', m', n', \dots$  may be constants or functions of  $x, y, z$ . Since  $l, m, n, \dots$  are arbitrary, it is possible to choose  $l, m, n, \dots$  so that

$$lP + mQ + nR = 0; \quad l'P + m'Q + n'R = 0; \dots \quad (4)$$

$$l dx + m dy + n dz = 0, \text{ etc.} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

The same relations between  $x, y, z$ , that satisfy (5), satisfy (2); and if (4) be an exact differential equation, equal to say  $du$ , direct integration gives the integral of the given system, *viz.*,

$$u = C_1 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

where  $C_1$  denotes the constant of integration.

In the same way, if

$$l' dx + m' dy + n' dz = 0,$$

is an exact differential equation, equal to say  $dv$ , then, since  $dv$  is also equal to zero,

$$v = C_2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

is a second solution. These two solutions must be independent.

EXAMPLES.—(1) By way of illustration let us solve the equations

$$\frac{dx}{y-z} = \frac{dy}{z-x} = \frac{dz}{x-y}.$$

<sup>1</sup> The proof will come later, page 584.

<sup>2</sup> The proof is interesting. Let  $dx/P = dy/Q = dz/R = k$ , say; then,  $dx = Pk$ ,  $dy = Qk$ ;  $dz = Rk$ ; or,  $l dx = lPk$ ;  $m dy = mQk$ ;  $n dz = nRk$ . Add these results,  $l dx + m dy + n dz = k(lP + mQ + nR)$ ,

$$\therefore \frac{l dx + m dy + n dz}{lP + mQ + nR} = k = \frac{dx}{P} = \frac{dy}{Q} = \frac{dz}{R}.$$

Here  $P = y - z$ ;  $Q = z - x$ ;  $R = x - y$ . Since, as in (4),

$$y - z + z - x + x - y = 0; \quad l = m = n = 1;$$

and as in (6),

$$x(y - z) + y(z - x) + z(x - y) = 0; \quad l' = x; \quad m' = y; \quad n' = z.$$

For the first combination, therefore

$$dx + dy + dz = 0; \text{ or, } x + y + z = C_1; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

and for the second combination

$$x dx + y dy + z dz = 0; \therefore x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = C_2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

The last of equations (8) and (9) define  $x$  and  $y$  as functions of  $z$ , and also contain two arbitrary constants, the conditions necessary and sufficient in order that these equations may be a complete solution of the given set of equations. Equations (8) and (9) represent a family of circles.

(2) Solve  $dx/y = dy/x = dz/z$ . The relation between  $dx$  and  $dy$  contains  $x$  and  $y$  only, the integral,  $y^2 - x^2 = C_1$ , follows at once. Use this result to eliminate  $x$  from the relation between  $dy$  and  $dz$ . The result is, p. 349,

$$dz/z = dy/\sqrt{(y^2 - C_1)}; \text{ or, } y + \sqrt{(y^2 - C_1)} = C_2 z.$$

These two equations, involving two constants of integration, constitute a complete solution.

(3) Solve  $dx/(mx - ny) = dy/(nx - lz) = dz/(ly - mx)$ . Here  $P = mx - ny$ ;  $Q = nx - lz$ ;  $R = ly - mx$ .  $l, m, n$  and  $x, y, z$  form a set of multipliers satisfying the above condition. Hence, each of the given equal fractions is equal to

$$\frac{l dx + m dy + n dz}{l(mx - ny) + m(nx - lz) + n(ly - mx)};$$

and to

$$\frac{x dx + y dy + z dz}{x(mx - ny) + y(nx - lz) + z(ly - mx)}.$$

Accordingly,

$$l dx + m dy + n dz = 0; \quad x dx + y dy + z dz = 0.$$

The integrals of these equations are

$$u = lx + my + nz = C_1; \quad v = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = C_2,$$

which constitute a complete solution.

$$(4) \text{ Solve } \frac{dx}{x^2 - y^2 - z^2} = \frac{dy}{2xy} = \frac{dz}{2xz}; \therefore \frac{x dx + y dy + z dz}{x(x^2 - y^2 - z^2) + 2xy^2 + 2xz^2} \\ \therefore \frac{dz}{z} = \frac{2x dx + 2y dy + 2z dz}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}; \therefore \log(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) = \log z + \log C_2;$$

consequently,  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = C_2 z$  is the second solution required.

It is thus evident that equation (5) must be integrable before the given set of simultaneous equations can be solved. The **criterion of integrability**, or the test of the exactness of an equation containing three or more variables is easily deduced. For instance, let

$$P dx + Q dy + R dz = 0; \therefore du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} dz. \quad (10)$$

The second of equations (10) is obviously exact, and equivalent to the first of equations (10), since both are derived from  $u = C_1$ . Hence certain conditions must hold in order that the first of

equations (10) may be reduced to the exact form of the second. As indicated above, there must exist a function of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ , say,  $\mu$ , such that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \mu P; \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \mu Q; \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = \mu R. \quad (11)$$

Let the student now differentiate each of equations (11), first with respect to  $y$  and  $z$ ; second with respect to  $z$  and  $x$ ; and third with respect to  $x$  and  $y$ , the result will be

$$\left. \begin{aligned} P \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \mu \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} &= Q \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \mu \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}; \quad \therefore \mu \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right) = Q \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - P \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}; \\ Q \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \mu \frac{\partial Q}{\partial z} &= R \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \mu \frac{\partial R}{\partial y}; \quad \therefore \mu \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial R}{\partial y} \right) = R \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} - Q \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}; \\ R \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \mu \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} &= P \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \mu \frac{\partial P}{\partial z}; \quad \therefore \mu \left( \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} \right) = P \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} - R \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (12)$$

Multiply the three equations on the right, in turn, by  $R$ ,  $P$ , and  $Q$  respectively, and add the results together. The result gives us the relation which must hold between the coefficients  $P$ ,  $Q$ , and  $R$  of the first of equations (10) in order that it may have an integral of the form  $u = C$ . We must have, in fact,

$$P \left( \frac{\partial Q}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial R}{\partial y} \right) + Q \left( \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} \right) + R \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right) = 0.$$

If equation (10) be not exact it can be made exact by means of an integrating factor.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Given  $(y + s)dx + (s + x)dy + (x + y)dz = 0$ , show that the condition of integrability is satisfied. To integrate an exact equation of this kind, first suppose that  $s$  is temporarily constant, and integrate. Thus, we get

$$(y + s)dx + (s + x)dy = 0; \quad (y + s)(s + x) = C'. \quad (18)$$

The integration constant obviously includes the variable  $s$ ; let  $C' = f(s)$ . To determine the form of this function, differentiate  $(y + s)(s + x) = f(s)$  with respect to  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ , and compare the result with the given equation. We get

$$(y + s)dx + (s + x)dy + (x + y)dz + 2sds = \frac{\partial f(s)}{\partial s} ds;$$

$$\therefore 2sds - df(s) = 0; \quad \text{or, } f(s) = s^2 + C_2;$$

$$\therefore (y + s)(s + x) = s^2 + C_2; \quad \text{or, } xy + yz + sx = C_2,$$

is the required solution. The same result could have been obtained more quickly, in this particular case, by expanding the given equation and so getting

$$(xdy + ydx) + (ydz + zd y) + (zdx + xdz) = 0; \quad \therefore xy + yz + sx = C_2.$$

(2) Integrate  $yzdx + xzdy + xydz = 0$ . Divide by  $xyz$ , and

$$\frac{dx}{x} = \frac{dy}{y} = \frac{dz}{z} = 0; \quad \therefore \log x + \log y + \log z = \log C; \quad \therefore xyz = C.$$

(8) Integrate  $xydx - xzdx - y^2dz = 0$ . Ansr.  $x/y - \log z = C$ . Hint. Divide by  $1/xy^2$  and the equation becomes exact.

(4) If  $(ydx + xdy)(a - z) + xydz = 0$ , show that  $xy = C(z - a)$ . Hint. Proceed as in Ex. (1), making  $z = \text{constant}$ , and afterwards showing that  $xy = f(z)$ , and then that  $f(z) = C(z - a)$ .

## § 142. Partial Differential Equations.

Equations obtained by the differentiation of functions of three or more variables are of two kinds :

1. Those in which there is only one independent variable, such as

$$Pdx + Qdy + Rdz = Sdt,$$

which involves four variables—three dependent and one independent. These are called **total differential equations**.

2. Those in which there is only one dependent and two or more independent variables, such as,

$$P\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + Q\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} + R\frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = 0,$$

where  $z$  is the dependent variable,  $x, y, t$  the independent variables. These equations are classed under the name **partial differential equations**. The former class of equations are rare, the latter very common. Physically, the differential equation represents the relation between the dependent and the independent variables when an infinitely small change is made in each of the independent variables.<sup>1</sup>

In the study of ordinary differential equations, we have always assumed that the given equation has been obtained by the elimination of constants from the original equation. In solving, we have sought to find this primitive equation. Partial differential equations, however, may be obtained by the elimination of arbitrary

<sup>1</sup> The reader will, perhaps, have noticed that the term "independent variable" is an equivocal phrase. (1) If  $u = f(z)$ ,  $u$  is a quantity whose magnitude changes when the value of  $z$  changes. The two magnitudes  $u$  and  $z$  are mutually dependent. For convenience, we fix our attention on the effect which a variation in the value of  $z$  has upon the magnitude of  $u$ . If need be we can reverse this and write  $z = f(u)$ , so that  $u$  now becomes the "independent variable". (2) If  $v = f(x, y)$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are "independent variables" in that  $x$  and  $y$  are mutually independent of each other. Any variation in the magnitude of the one has no effect on the magnitude of the other.  $x$  and  $y$  are also "independent variables" with respect to  $v$  in the same sense that  $z$  has just been supposed the "independent variable" with respect to  $u$ .

functions of the variables as well as of constants. For example, if

$$u = f(ax^3 + by^3),$$

be an arbitrary function of  $x$  and  $y$ , we get, as in Euler's theorem page 75,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 3af'(ax^3 + by^3); \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 3bf'(ax^3 + by^3); \therefore b\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - a\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0,$$

where the arbitrary function has disappeared.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $u = f(at + x)$ , show that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = a\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = a^2\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

Here  $\partial u/\partial t = af'(at + x)$ ;  $\partial u/\partial x = f'(at + x)$ , etc. Establish the result by giving  $f(at + x)$  some specific form, say,  $f(at + x) = at + x$ ; and  $\sin(at + x)$

(2) Eliminate the arbitrary function from the thermodynamic equation

$$Q = f\left(\frac{p}{\rho}\right) - \frac{p}{a\rho} \log p. \quad \therefore \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \rho} = -\frac{p}{\rho^2} f'\left(\frac{p}{\rho}\right) + \frac{p}{a\rho^2} \log p; \quad \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} = \frac{1}{\rho} f'\left(\frac{p}{\rho}\right) - \frac{1}{a\rho} \log p - \frac{1}{a\rho}$$

$$\therefore p\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} + \rho\frac{\partial Q}{\partial \rho} = -\frac{p}{a\rho},$$

(3) Remembering that the object of solving any given differential is to find the primitive from which the differential equation has been derived by the elimination of constants or arbitrary functions. Show that  $z = f_1(x) + f_2(y)$  is a solution of  $\partial^2 z/\partial x \partial y = 0$ . Hint. Eliminate the arbitrary function.

(4) Show that  $z = f_1(x + at) + f_2(x - at)$  is a solution of  $\partial^2 z/\partial t^2 = a^2 \partial^2 z/\partial x^2$ .

An arbitrary function of the variables must now be added to the integral of a partial differential equation instead of the constant hitherto employed for ordinary differential equations. If the number of arbitrary constants to be eliminated is equal to the number of independent variables, the resulting differential equation is of the first order. The higher orders occur when the number of constants to be eliminated, exceeds that of the independent variables.

If  $u = f(x, y)$ , there will be two differential coefficients of the first order; three of the second; ... Thus,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}; \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}, \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y}; \dots$$

### § 143. What is the Solution of a Partial Differential Equation?

Ordinary differential equations have two classes of solutions—the complete integral and the singular solution. Particular solutions are only varieties of the complete integral. Three

classes of solutions can be obtained from some partial differential equations, still regarding the particular solution as a special case of the complete integral. These are indicated in the following example.

The equation of a sphere in three dimensions is,

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where the centre of the sphere coincides with the origin of the coordinate planes and  $r$  denotes the radius of the sphere. If the centre of the sphere lies somewhere on the  $xy$ -plane at a point  $(a, b)$ , the above equation becomes

$$(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 + z^2 = r^2. \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

When  $a$  and  $b$  are arbitrary constants, each or both of which may have any assigned magnitude, equation (2) may represent two infinite systems of spheres of radius  $r$ . The centre of any member of either of these two infinite systems—called a *double infinite system*—must lie somewhere on the  $xy$ -plane.

Differentiate (2) with respect to  $x$  and  $y$ .

$$x - a + z \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 0; \quad y - b + z \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 0. \quad . \quad (3)$$

Substitute for  $x - a$  and  $y - b$  in (2). We obtain

$$z^2 \left\{ \left( \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right)^2 + 1 \right\} = r^2. \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

Equation (2), therefore, is the **complete integral** of (4). By assigning any particular numerical value to  $a$  or  $b$ , a **particular solution** of (4) will be obtained, such is

$$(x - 1)^2 + (y - 79)^2 + z^2 = r^2. \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

If (2) be differentiated with respect to  $a$  and  $b$ ,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial a} \{ (x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 + z^2 = r^2 \}; \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial b} \{ (x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 + z^2 = r^2 \},$$

or,  $x - a = 0$ , and  $y - b = 0$ .

Eliminate  $a$  and  $b$  from (2),

$$z = \pm r. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

This result satisfies equation (4), but, unlike the particular solution, is not included in the complete integral (2). Such a solution of the differential equation is said to be a **singular solution**.

Geometrically, the singular solution represents two plane surfaces touched by all the spheres represented by equation (2). The singular solution is thus the envelope of all the spheres represented

by the complete integral. If  $AB$  (Fig. 97) represents a cross section of the  $xy$ -plane containing spheres of radius  $r$ ,  $CD$  and  $EF$  are cross sections of the plane surfaces represented by the singular solution.

If the one constant is some function of the other, say,

$$a = b,$$

(2) may be written

$$(x - a)^2 + (y + a)^2 + z^2 = r^2. \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

Differentiate with respect to  $a$ . We find

$$a = \frac{1}{2}(x + y).$$

Eliminate  $a$  from (7). The resulting equation

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2z^2 - 2xy = 2r^2,$$

is called a **general integral** of the equation.

Geometrically, the general integral is the equation to the tubular envelope of a family of spheres of radius  $r$  and whose centres are along the line  $x = y$ . This line corresponds with the axis of the tube envelope. The general integral satisfies (4) and is also contained in the complete integral.

Instead of taking  $a = b$  as the particular form of the function connecting  $a$  and  $b$ , we could have taken any other relation, say  $a = \frac{1}{2}b$ . The envelope of the general integral would then be like a tube surrounding all the spheres of radius  $r$  whose centres were along the line  $x = \frac{1}{2}y$ . Had we put  $a^2 - b^2 = 1$ , the envelope would have been a tube whose axis was an hyperbola  $x^2 - y^2 = 1$ .

A *particular solution* is one particular surface selected from the double infinite series represented by the complete solution. A *general integral* is the envelope of one particular family of surfaces selected from those comprised in the complete integral. A *singular solution* is an envelope of every surface included in the complete integral.<sup>1</sup>

Theoretically an equation is not supposed to be solved completely until the complete integral, the general integral and the singular solution have been indicated. In the ideal case, the complete integral is first determined; the singular solution obtained by the elimination of arbitrary constants as indicated above; the general integral then determined by eliminating  $a$  and  $f(a)$ .

Practically, the complete integral is not always the direct ob-

---

<sup>1</sup> G. B. Airy's little book, *An Elementary Treatise on Partial Differential Equations*, London, 1873, will repay careful study in connection with the geometrical interpretation of the solutions of partial differential equations.



ject of attack. It is usually sufficient to deduce a number of particular solutions to satisfy the conditions of the problem and afterwards to so combine these solutions that the result will not only satisfy the given conditions but also the differential equation.

Of course, the complete integral of a differential equation applies to any physical process represented by the differential equation. This solution, however, may be so general as to be of little practical use. To represent any particular process, certain limitations called **limiting conditions** have to be introduced. These exclude certain forms of the general solution as impossible.<sup>1</sup> We met this idea in connection with the solution of algebraic equations, page 363.

### § 144. The Linear Partial Equation of the First Order.

Let  $u = C_1$ , . . . . . (1)  
be a solution of the linear partial equation of the first order and degree, namely of

$$P \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + Q \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = R, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

where  $P$ ,  $Q$ , and  $R$  are functions of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ ; and  $C_1$  is a constant. Now differentiate (1) with respect to  $x$ , and  $y$  respectively, as on page 44, or Ex. (5), page 74.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 0; \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

Now solve the one equation for  $\partial z / \partial x$ , and the other for  $\partial z / \partial y$ , and substitute the results in (2). We thus obtain

$$P \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + Q \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + R \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

Again, let (1) be an integral of the equation

$$\frac{\partial x}{P} = \frac{\partial y}{Q} = \frac{\partial z}{R}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

The total differential of  $u$  with respect to  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ , is

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} dz = 0; \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

and since, by equations,  $dx = kP$ ;  $dy = kQ$ ;  $dz = kR$ , page 445 (footnote), we have

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} P + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} Q + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} R = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

---

<sup>1</sup> For examples, see the end of Chapter VIII. ; also page 460, and elsewhere.

which is identical with (4). This means that every integral of (2) satisfies (5), and conversely. The general integral of (2) will therefore be the general integral of (5).

What has just been proved in connection with  $u = C_1$  also applies to the integral  $v = C_2$  of (7), page 445. If therefore we can establish a relation between  $u$  and  $v$  such that

$$u = f(v); \text{ or, } \phi(u, v) = 0, \quad (8)$$

this arbitrary function will be a solution of the given equation. This is known as **Lagrange's solution** of the linear differential equation; equations (5) are called **Lagrange's auxiliary equations**.

We may now show that any equations of form (8) will furnish a definite partial equation of the linear form (2). Differentiate equations (8), say the first, with respect to each of the independent variables  $x$  and  $y$ . We get

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = f'(v) \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \right); \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = f'(v) \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \right).$$

By division and rearrangement of terms,  $f'(v)$  and the terms containing the product of  $\partial z/\partial x$  with  $\partial z/\partial y$  disappear,<sup>1</sup> and we get

$$\frac{\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}}{\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}} + \frac{\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial z}}{\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial z}} = \frac{\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}}. \quad (9)$$

This equation has the same form as Lagrange's equation

$$\frac{dx}{P} = \frac{dy}{Q} = \frac{dz}{R}; \text{ and } P \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + Q \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = R,$$

hence, if  $u = f(v)$  is a solution of (2), it is also a solution of (5).

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve E. Clapeyron's equation (*Journ. de l'Ecole Roy. Polyt.*, 14, 153, 1834),

$$p \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} + \rho \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \rho} = - \frac{p}{a\rho}, \quad (10)$$

well known in thermodynamics. Here,  $P = p$ ,  $Q = \rho$ ,  $R = -p/a\rho$ , and Lagrange's auxiliary equations assume the form,

$$\frac{\partial p}{p} = \frac{\partial \rho}{\rho} - \frac{\partial Q}{a\rho}. \quad (11)$$

From the first pair of these equations we get  $\log p - \log \rho = \log C_1$ ; consequently  $p/\rho = C_1$ . From the first and last of equations (11), we have

$$dQ = - \frac{p}{a\rho} \cdot \frac{dp}{p}; \therefore Q = - \frac{p}{a\rho} \log p + C_2,$$

---

<sup>1</sup> When the reader has read Chapter XI. he will write the denominator in the form of a "Jacobian".



(2) Solve  $z_x z_y = 1$ . Ansr.  $z = ax + y/a + C$ . Hint.  $ab = 1$ , etc. NOTE.—We shall sometimes write for the sake of brevity,  $p = \partial z / \partial x = z_x$ ;  $q = \partial z / \partial y = z_y$ .

(3) Solve  $a(z_x + z_y) = z$ . Sometimes, as here, when the variables do appear in the equation, the function of  $x$ , which occurs in the equation, may be associated with  $\partial z / \partial x$ , or a function of  $y$  with  $\partial z / \partial y$ , by a change in the variables. We may write the given equation  $ap/z + aq/z = 1$ . Put  $dz/z = dZ$ ;  $dy/a = dY$ ,  $dx/a = dX$ , hence,  $\partial Z / \partial Y + \partial Z / \partial X = 1$ , the form required. Ansr.  $Z = aX + Y(1 - a) + C$ ; where,  $Z = \log z$ ;  $Y = y/a$ ;  $X = x/a$ , etc.

(4) Solve  $x^2 u_x^2 + y^2 u_y^2 = z^2$ . Put  $X = \log x$ ,  $Y = \log y$ ,  $Z = \log z$ . Proceed as before. Ansr.  $z = Cx^a y^b \sqrt{1 - a^2}$ .

If it is not possible to remove the dependent variable  $z$  in this way, the equation will possibly belong to the following class:—

II. *The independent variables  $x$  and  $y$  are absent.* The general form is,

$$f\left(z, \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\right) = 0. \quad \text{II.}$$

Assume as a trial solution, that

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = a \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}.$$

Let  $\partial z / \partial x$  be some function of  $z$  obtained from II., say  $u_x = \phi(z)$ . Substitute these values in

$$dz = z_x dx + z_y dy.$$

We thus get an ordinary differential equation which can be readily integrated.

$$dz = \phi(z)dx + a\phi(z)dy. \quad \therefore x + ay = \int \frac{dz}{\phi(z)} + C. \quad (2)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $z_x^2 z + z_y^2 = 4$ . Here put  $\partial z / \partial y = a \partial z / \partial x$ ,

$$\therefore (a^2 + z) (dz/dx)^2 = 4. \quad \sqrt{a^2 + z} \cdot dz/dx = 2,$$

$$\therefore x + ay + C = \int \frac{1}{2} (a^2 + z)^{\frac{1}{2}} dz = \frac{1}{3} (a^2 + z)^{3/2}. \quad \text{Ansr. } 2(a^2 + z)^3 = 3(x + ay + C)^2.$$

$$(2) \text{ Solve } p(1 + q^2) = q(z - a). \quad \text{Ansr. } \frac{4}{b} (z - a) = (bx + y + C)^2 + 4. \quad \text{Hint.}$$

Put  $q = bp$ , etc. The integration and other constants are collected under  $C$ .

(3) Moseley (*Phil. Mag.*, [4], 37, 370, 1869) has the equation of the motion of an imperfect fluid

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = mz.$$

Let  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = a \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}$ ;  $\therefore \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + a \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = mz$ ;  $\therefore \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \frac{mz}{1+a}$ ;  $\therefore \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \frac{ams}{1+a}$ , by substitution in the original equation. From (3),

$$dz = \frac{mz}{1+a} dx + \frac{ams}{1+a} dy; \quad \frac{dz}{z} = \frac{m}{1+a} (dx + a dy); \quad \therefore \log z = \frac{m}{1+a} (x + ay) + C.$$

If  $z$  does not appear directly in the equation, we may be able to refer the equation to the next type.

III.  $z$  does not appear directly in the equation, but  $x$  and  $\partial z/\partial x$  can be separated from  $y$  and  $\partial z/\partial y$ . The leading type is

$$f_1\left(x, \frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\right) = f_2\left(y, \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\right). \quad \text{III.}$$

Assume as a trial solution, that each member is equal to an arbitrary constant  $a$ , so that  $z_x$  and  $z_y$  can be obtained in the form,

$$z_x = f_1(x, a); \quad z_y = f_2(y, a); \quad dz = z_x dx + z_y dy,$$

then assumes the form

$$z = \int f_1(x, a) dx + \int f_2(y, a) dy + C. \quad (3)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $z_y - z_x + x - y = 0$ . Put  $\partial z/\partial x - x = \partial z/\partial y - y = a$ . Write  $z_x = x + a$ ;  $z_y = y + a$ ;

$$\therefore dz = (x + a)dx + (y + a)dy, \quad z = \frac{1}{2}(x + a)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(y + a)^2 + C.$$

(2) Assume with S. D. Poisson (*Ann. de Chim.*, 23, 337, 1823) that the quantity of heat,  $Q$ , contained in a mass of gas depends upon the pressure,  $p$ , and its density  $\rho$ , so that  $Q = f(p, \rho)$ . According to the well-known gas equation,  $p = R\rho(1 + \alpha\theta)$ ; if  $p$  is constant,

$$\frac{d\rho}{d\theta} = -\frac{R\rho}{1 + \alpha\theta}; \quad \text{and,} \quad \frac{dp}{d\theta} = \frac{R\rho}{1 + \alpha\theta},$$

if  $\rho$  is constant. From (10) and (7), page 80, the specific heats at constant pressure, and constant volume (*i.e.*,  $\rho = \text{constant}$ ) may be written

$$C_p = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial \rho}\right)_p \left(\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial \theta}\right)_p = -\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial \rho}\right)_p \frac{R\rho}{1 + \alpha\theta}; \quad \text{and} \quad C_v = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial \theta}\right)_v = \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v \frac{R\rho}{1 + \alpha\theta}.$$

Assuming, with Laplace and Poisson, that  $\gamma = C_p/C_v$  is constant, we get, by division.

$$\gamma p \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p}\right)_v + \rho \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial \rho}\right)_p = 0.$$

This differential equation comes under (3). Put

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} = \frac{a}{\gamma p}; \quad \frac{dQ}{d\rho} = -\frac{a}{\rho};$$

$$\therefore dQ = a\left(\frac{1}{\gamma} \cdot \frac{d\rho}{p} - \frac{d\rho}{\rho}\right); \quad \text{or,} \quad Q = \frac{a}{\gamma} \log p - a \log \rho + C.$$

If  $\phi$  is an independent function,

$$Q = \phi\left(\frac{p^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}}{\rho}\right); \quad \text{or,} \quad \frac{p^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}}{\rho} = \psi(Q),$$

where  $\psi$  is the inverse function of  $\phi$ . If it be assumed that the quantity of heat contained in any gas during any change is constant,  $\psi(Q)$  will remain constant. Otherwise expressed,

$$\frac{p^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}}{\rho} = \text{constant}; \quad \text{or,} \quad p v^{\gamma} = \text{constant.}$$

since volume,  $v$ , varies inversely as the density,  $\rho$ . This relation was deduced another way on page 258.

(4) E. Clapeyron's equation, previously discussed on page 453, may be solved by the method of the separation of the variables.

$$p \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} + \rho \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \rho} = -\frac{p}{\rho a}; \therefore \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} + \frac{1}{c} \cdot \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \rho} = -\frac{c}{ap};$$

since  $p = c\rho$  by Boyle's law.

$$\therefore \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} + \frac{c}{ap} = A; \quad \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \rho} = Ac.$$

Hence, by integration and substitution in (3), we get

$$Q = Ap + Ac\rho + C - \frac{c}{a} \log p; \text{ or, } Q = f\left(\frac{p}{\rho}\right) - \frac{p}{a\rho} \log p,$$

by collecting all the integration functions under the symbol  $f(\dots)$ , and substituting for  $c$  from Boyle's law. Of course  $f(p/\rho)$  can only be evaluated when the relation between  $p$  and  $\rho$  is known. C. Holtzmann assumed that this function could be written  $= A + BT$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  were constants,  $T$  the absolute temperature.

IV. *Analogous to Clairaut's equation.* The general type is

$$z = \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \cdot x + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \cdot y + f\left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}\right). \quad \text{IV.}$$

The complete integral is

$$z = ax + by + f(a, b). \quad (4)$$

EXAMPLES.—Solve the following equations:

(1)  $z = z_x x + z_y y + z_x z_y$ . Ansr.  $z = ax + by + ab$ . Singular solution  $z = -xy$ .

(2)  $z = z_x x + z_y y + r \sqrt{1 + z_x^2 + z_y^2}$ . Ansr.  $z = ax + by + r \sqrt{1 + a^2 + b^2}$ . Singular solution,  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$ . The singular solution is, therefore, a sphere;  $r$ , of course, is a constant.

(3)  $z = z_x x + z_y y - n \sqrt[n]{z_x z_y}$ . Ansr.  $z = ax + by - n \sqrt[n]{ab}$ . Singular solution,  $z = (2 - n)(xy)^{1/(2-n)}$ .

There are no general methods for the solution of partial differential equations, and it is only possible to perform the integration in special cases. The greatest advances in this direction have been made with the linear equation. Linear equations are often encountered in physical mathematics.

## § 146. The Linear Partial Equation of the Second Order.

Suppose an elastic medium (gas) to be confined in a tube of unit sectional area; let  $E$  denote the coefficient of compressional elasticity of the gaseous medium; and  $p$  a force which will produce a compression  $du$  in a layer of the gas  $dx$  thick, then, since

$$\text{Stress} = \text{elasticity} \times \text{strain},$$

as in Hooke's well-known law—*ut tensio sic vis*—we get

$$p = E \frac{du}{dx}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

Again, the layer  $dx$  will be moved forwards or backwards by the differences of pressure on the two sides of this layer. Let this difference be  $dp$ . Hence, by differentiation of  $p$  and  $du$ , we get

$$dp = E \frac{d^2u}{dx^2}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

Let  $\rho$  denote the density of the gas in the layer  $dx$ , then, the mass  $m$ ,

$$m = \rho dx.$$

Now the pressure which moves a body is measured, in dynamics, as the product of the mass into the acceleration, or

$$dp/m = \frac{d^2u}{dt^2} = \rho \frac{d^2u}{dt^2} dx.$$

The equation of motion of the lamina is

$$\therefore \frac{d^2u}{dt^2} = \frac{E}{\rho} \frac{d^2u}{dx^2}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

This linear homogeneous partial differential equation represents the motion of stretched strings, the small oscillations of air in narrow (organ) pipes, and the motion of waves on the sea if the water is neither too deep nor too shallow. Let us now proceed to the integration of this equation.

There are many points of analogy between the partial and the ordinary linear differential equations. Indeed, it may almost be said that every ordinary differential equation between two variables is analogous to a partial differential of the same form. The solution is in each case similar, but there are these differences :

First, the arbitrary constant of integration in the solution of an ordinary differential equation is replaced by a function of a variable or variables.

Second, the exponential form,  $Ce^{mx}$ , of the solution of the ordinary linear differential equation assumes the form  $e^{mx \frac{\delta}{\delta y}} \phi(y)$ .

The expression,  $e^{mx \frac{\delta}{\delta y}} \phi(y)$ , is known as the symbolic form of Taylor's theorem. Having had considerable practice in the use of the symbol of operation  $D$  for  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ , we may now use  $D'$  to represent the operation  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}$ . By

Taylor's theorem,

$$\phi(y + mx) = \phi(y) + mx \frac{\partial \phi(y)}{\partial y} + \frac{m^2 x^2}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 \phi(y)}{\partial y^2} + \dots,$$

where  $x$  is regarded as constant.

$$\therefore \phi(y + mx) = \left(1 + mx \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \frac{m^2 x^2}{2!} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \dots\right) \phi(y).$$

The term in brackets is clearly an exponential series (page 285), equivalent to  $e^{mx \frac{\partial}{\partial y}}$ , or, writing  $D'$  for  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}$ ,

$$\phi(y + mx) = e^{mx D'} \phi(y). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

Now convert equation (3) into

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

by writing  $a^2 = E/\rho$ . This expression is sometimes called **d'Alembert's equation**. Instead of assuming, as a trial solution, that  $y = e^{mx}$ , as was the case with the ordinary equation, suppose that

$$u = f(x + mt), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

is a trial solution. Differentiate (6), with respect to  $t$  and  $x$ , we thus obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &= mf'(x + mt); \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = f'(x + mt); \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial t} = mf''(x + mt); \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} &= m^2 f''(x + mt); \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = f''(x + mt). \end{aligned}$$

Substitute these values in equation (5) equated to zero, and divide out the factor  $f''(x + mt)$ . The auxiliary equation,

$$m^2 - a^2 = 0 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

remains. If  $m$  is a root of this equation,  $f''(x + mt) = 0$ , is a part of the complementary function. Since  $\pm a$  are the roots of (7), then

$$u = e^{-at D'} f_1(x) + e^{at D'} f_2(x). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

From (4) and (6), therefore,

$$u = f_1(x - at) + f_2(x + at) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

Since  $+a$  and  $-a$  are the roots of the auxiliary equation (7), we can write (5) in the form,

$$(D + aD')(D - aD')u = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = 0$ , show  $z = f_1(y + x) + f_2(y - x)$ .

(2) If  $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} - 4 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} + 4 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = 0$ , show  $z = f_1(y + 2x) + f_2(y - 2x)$ .

(3) If  $2 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} - 3 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} - 2 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = 0$ , show  $z = f_1(2y - x) + f_2(y + 2x)$ .

In the absence of data pertaining to some specific problem, we cannot say much about the undetermined functions  $f_1(x + at)$



and  $f_2(x - at)$  of (9). Consider a vibrating harp string, where no force is applied after the string has once been put in motion. Let

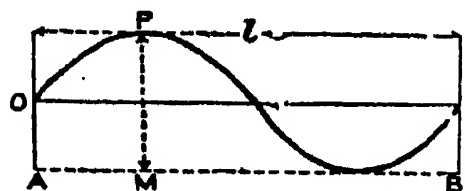


FIG. 154.

$x = l = AB$  (Fig. 154) denote the length of the string under a tension  $T$ ; and  $m$  the mass of unit length of the vibrating string. In the equation of motion (5), in order to avoid a root sign later on,  $a^2$  appears in place of  $T/m$ . Further, let  $u$   $PM$  represent the displacement of any

part of the string we please, and let the ordinate of one end of the string be zero. Then, whatever value we assign to the time  $t$ , the ends of the string are fixed and have the limiting condition  $u = 0$ , when  $x = 0$ ; and  $u = 0$ , when  $x = l$ .

$$\therefore f_1(at) + f_2(-at) = 0; f_1(l + at) + f_2(l - at) = 0, \quad (11)$$

are solutions of d'Alembert's equation (5). From the former, it follows that

$$f_1(at) \text{ must always be equal to } -f_2(-at) \quad (12)$$

But  $at$  may have any value we please. In order to fix our ideas, suppose that we put  $l + at$  for  $at$  in the second of equations (11) then, from (12),

$$f_1(at + 2l) = f_1(at). \quad (13)$$

The physical meaning of this solution is that when  $f_1(\dots)$  is increased or diminished by  $2l$ , the value of the function remains unaltered. Hence, when  $at$  is increased by  $2l$ , or, what is the same thing, when  $t$  is increased by  $2l/a$ , the corresponding portions of the string will have the same displacement. In other words, the string performs at least one complete vibration in the time  $2l/a$ . We can show the same thing applies for  $4l, 6l, \dots$ . Hence, we conclude that d'Alembert's equation represents a finite periodic motion, with a period of oscillation.

$$at = 2l; \text{ or, } t = \frac{2l}{a}; \text{ or, } t = 2l\sqrt{\frac{m}{T}}. \quad (14)$$

NUMERICAL EXAMPLE.—The middle  $C$  of a pianoforte vibrates 264 times per second, that is, once every  $\frac{1}{264}$  second. If the length of the wire is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and one foot of the wire weighs 0.002 lbs., find the tension  $T$  in lbs. Now mass equals the weight divided by  $g$ , that is by 32. Hence,

$$t = 2l\sqrt{\frac{w}{32T}}; \frac{1}{264} = 5\sqrt{\frac{0.002}{32 \times T}}; \therefore T = 108 \text{ lbs.}$$

Equation (5), or (9), represents a wave or pulse of air passing through a tube both from and towards the origin. If we consider

a pulse passing from the origin only,

$$u = f(x + at)$$

is the solution of the differential equation. By differentiation with regard to  $x$ , and with regard to  $t$ , we have already shown, Ex. (1), page 449, that

$$\frac{du}{dx} = f'(x + at), \quad \frac{du}{dt} = af'(x + at).$$

The first of these equations represents the rate of expansion or contraction; the second, the velocity of a particle. The velocity of the wave is, by division,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = a; \text{ or, } V = \sqrt{\frac{E}{\rho}};$$

which is Newton's formula for the velocity of sound (Newton's *Principia*, ii., Prob. 43-50). Newton made  $E$  represent the isothermal elasticity,  $p$ ; Laplace, the adiabatic elasticity  $\gamma p$  of page 114.

When two of the roots in equation (7) are equal to, say,  $a$ . We know, page 401, that the solution of

$$(D - a)^2 z = 0, \text{ is } z = e^{mx}(C_1 x + C_2),$$

by analogy, the solution of

$$(D - aD')^2 z = 0, \text{ is } z = e^{mxD'}\{xf_1(y) + f_2(y)\},$$

$$\text{or, } z = xf_1(y + ax) + f_2(y + ax). \quad (15)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve:  $(D^3 - D^2D' - DD'^2 + D'^3)z = 0$ .

$$\text{Ans. } z = xf_1(y - x) + f_2(y - x) + f_3(y + x).$$

$$(2) \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = 0. \quad \text{Ans. } z = xf_1(y + x) + f_2(y + x).$$

If the equation be non-homogeneous, say,

$$A_0 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} + A_1 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} + A_2 \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} + A_3 \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + A_4 \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} + A_5 z = 0, \quad (16)$$

and it can be separated into factors, the integral is the sum of the integrals corresponding to each symbolic factor, so that each factor of the form  $D - mD'$ , appears in the solution as a function of  $y + mx$ , and every factor of the form  $D - mD' - a$ , appears in the solution in the form  $z = e^{ax}f(y + mx)$ .

$$\text{EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve } \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 0.$$

$$\text{Factors, } (D + D')(D - D' + 1)z = 0. \quad \text{Ans. } z = f_1(y - x) + e^{-x}f_2(y + x).$$

$$(2) \text{ Solve } \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 0.$$

$$\text{Factors, } (D + 1)(D - D')z = 0. \quad \text{Ans. } z = e^{-x}f_1(y) + f_2(x + y).$$

It is, however, not often possible to represent the solutions of

these equations in this manner, and in that case it is customary to take the trial solution,

$$z = e^{ax + \beta y}. \quad (17)$$

Of course, if  $a$  is a function of  $\beta$  we can substitute  $a = f(\beta)$  and so get rid of  $\beta$ . Now differentiate (17) so as to get

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = az; \quad \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = \beta z; \quad \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} = a\beta z; \quad \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} = a^2 z; \quad \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = \beta^2 z.$$

Substitute these results in (16). We thus obtain the auxiliary equation

$$(A_0 a^2 + A_1 a\beta + A_2 \beta^2 + A_3 a + A_4 \beta + A_5)z = 0. \quad (18)$$

This may be looked upon as a bracketed quadratic in  $a$  and  $\beta$ . Given any value of  $\beta$ , we can find the corresponding value of  $a$ ; or the value of  $\beta$  from any assigned value of  $a$ . There is thus an infinite number of particular solutions. Hence these important rules:

*I. If  $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots$ , are particular solutions of any partial differential equation, each solution can be multiplied by an arbitrary constant and each of the resulting products is also a solution of the equation.*

*II. The sum or difference of any number of particular solutions is a solution of the given equation.*

It is usually not very difficult to find particular solutions, even when the general solution cannot be obtained. The chief difficulty lies in the combining of the particular solutions in such a way, that the conditions of the problem under investigation are satisfied. In order to fix these ideas let us study a couple of examples which will prepare the way for the next chapter.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Solve  $(D^2 - D')z = 0$ . Here  $a^2 - \beta = 0$ ;  $\therefore \beta = a^2$ . Hence (17) becomes  $z = Ce^{ax + a^2 y}$ . Put  $a = \frac{1}{2}, a = 1, a = 2, \dots$  and we get the particular solutions  $e^{\frac{1}{2}(2x + y)}, e^{x + y}, e^{2x + 4y}, \dots$

$$\therefore z = C_1 e^{\frac{1}{2}(2x + y)} + C_2 e^{x + y} + C_3 e^{2x + 4y} + \dots$$

Now the difference between any two terms of the form  $e^{ax + \beta y}$ , is included in the above solution, it follows, therefore, that the first differential coefficient of  $e^{ax + \beta y}$ , is also an integral, and, in the same way, the second, third and higher derivatives must be integrals. Since,

$$De^{ax + a^2 y} = (x + 2ay)e^{ax + a^2 y}; \quad D^2 e^{ax + a^2 y} = \{(x + 2ay) + 2y\}e^{ax + a^2 y}.$$

$$D^3 e^{ax + a^2 y} = \{(x + 2ay) + 6y(x + 2ay)\}e^{ax + a^2 y}; \text{ etc.,}$$

we have the following solution:—

$$z = C_1(x + 2ay)e^{ax + a^2 y} + C_2\{(x + 2ay) + 2y\}e^{ax + a^2 y} + \dots$$

If  $a = 0$ , we get the special case,

$$z = C_1 x + C_2(x^2 + 2y) + C_3(x^3 + 6xy) + \dots$$

(2) Solve  $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} - 3\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + 3\frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 0$ . Put  $z = Ce^{ax + \beta y}$ ; and we get  
 $(a - \beta)(a + \beta - 3) = 0$ .  $\therefore \beta = a$ , and  $\beta = 3 - a$ .  
 $\therefore z = C_1 e^{a(x+y)} + e^{3y} C_2 e^{a(x-y)} = f_1(y+x) + e^{3y} f_2(x-y)$ .

The processes for finding the particular integrals are analogous to those employed for the particular integrals of ordinary differential equation, I shall not go further into the matter just now, but will return to the subject in the next chapter. Partial differential equations of a higher order than the second sometimes occur in investigations upon the action of magnetism on polarized light; vibrations of thick plates, or curved bars; the motion of a cylinder in a fluid; the damping of air waves by viscosity, etc.

### § 147. The Approximate Integration of Differential Equations.

There are two interesting and useful methods for obtaining the approximate solution of differential equations :

*I. Integration in series.* When a function can be developed in a series of converging terms, arranged in powers of the independent variable, an approximate value for the dependent variable can easily be obtained. The degree of approximation attained obviously depends on the number of terms of the series included in the calculation. The older mathematicians considered this an underhand way of getting at the solution, but, for practical work, it is invaluable. As a matter of fact, solutions of the more advanced problems in physical mathematics are nearly always represented in the form of an abbreviated infinite series. Finite solutions are the exception rather than the rule.

EXAMPLES.—(1) It is required to find the solution  $dy/dx = y$ , in series. Assume that  $y$  has the form

$$y = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + \dots$$

Differentiate, and substitute for  $\dot{y}$  and  $y$  in the given equation.

$$(a_1 - a_0) + (2a_2 - a_1)x + (3a_3 - a_2)x^2 + \dots = 0.$$

If  $x$  is not zero, this equation is satisfied when the coefficients of  $x$  become zero. This requires that

$$a_1 = a_0; a_2 = \frac{1}{2}a_1 = \frac{1}{2}a_0; a_3 = \frac{1}{3}a_2 = \frac{1}{3!}a_0; \dots$$

Hence, by substitution in (1), we obtain

$$y = a_0 \left( 1 + x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dots \right) = a_0 e^x.$$

Put  $a$  for the arbitrary constant so that the final result is  $y = ae^x$ . That this is a complete solution, is proved by substitution in the original equation. We

must proceed a little differently with equations of a higher order. Take as a second example

(2) Solve  $dy/dx + ay + bx^2 = 0$  in series. By successive differentiation of this expression, and making  $y = y_0$  when  $x = 0$  in the results, we obtain

$$\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_0 = -ay_0; \left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\right)_0 = a^2y_0; \left(\frac{d^3y}{dx^3}\right)_0 = -a^3y_0 - 2b; \dots$$

By Maclaurin's theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} y &= y_0 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_0 \frac{x}{1!} + \left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\right)_0 \frac{x^2}{2!} + \left(\frac{d^3y}{dx^3}\right)_0 \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots; \\ &= y_0 - ay_0x + \frac{1}{2}a^2y_0x^2 - \frac{1}{6}(a^3y_0 + 2b)x^3 + \dots; \\ &= y_0(1 - ax + \frac{1}{2}a^2x^2 - \dots) - 2ba^{-3}(\frac{1}{6}a^3x^3 - \frac{1}{24}a^4x^4 + \dots); \\ &= y_0e^{-ax} + 2ba^{-3}(e^{-ax} - 1 + ax - \frac{1}{2}a^2x^2), \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

by making suitable transformations in the contents of the last pair of brackets. Hence finally  $y = C_1e^{-ax} - 2ba^{-3}(1 - ax + \frac{1}{2}a^2x^2)$ . Verify this by the method of § 125, page 387.

(3) Solve  $d^2y/dx^2 - a^2y = 0$  in series. By successive differentiation, and integration

$$\frac{d^3y}{dx^3} = a^2 \frac{dy}{dx}; \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = a^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}; \dots \left(\frac{d^4y}{dx^4}\right)_0 = a^4y_0; \dots,$$

when the integrations are performed between the limits  $x = x$ , and  $x = 0$ , so that  $y$  becomes  $y_0$  when  $x = 0$ . From Maclaurin's theorem, (1) above, we get by substitution

$$\begin{aligned} y &= y_0 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_0 \frac{x}{1!} + a^2y_0 \frac{x^2}{2!} + a^2 \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_0 \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots; \\ &= y_0 \left\{ 1 + \frac{a^2x^2}{2!} + \frac{a^4x^4}{4!} + \dots \right\} + \frac{1}{a} \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_0 \left\{ \frac{ax}{1!} + \frac{a^3x^3}{3!} + \dots \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

By rearranging the terms in brackets and putting the constants  $y_0 = A$ , and  $y_0/a = B$ , we get,

$$\begin{aligned} y &= A \left\{ \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}ax + \frac{1}{24}a^2x^2 + \dots \right) + \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}ax + \frac{1}{24}a^2x^2 - \dots \right) + B(\dots) \right\}; \\ &= \frac{1}{2}A(e^{ax} + e^{-ax}) + B(e^{ax} - e^{-ax}) = C_1e^{ax} + C_2e^{-ax}. \end{aligned}$$

Sometimes it is advisable to assume a series with undetermined indices and to evaluate this by means of the differential equation, as indicated in the next example.

(4) Solve

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - x \frac{dy}{dx} - cy = x^2. \quad (2)$$

(i) *The complementary function.* As a trial solution, put  $y = a_0x^m$ . The auxiliary equation is

$$m(m-1)a_0x^{m-2} - (m+c)a_0x^m = 0. \quad (3)$$

This shows that the difference between the successive exponents of  $x$  in the assumed series, is 2. The required series is, therefore,

$$y = a_0x^m + a_1x^{m+2} + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{m+2n-2} + a_nx^{m+2n} = 0, \quad (4)$$

which is more conveniently written

$$y = \sum_0^\infty a_nx^{m+2n} = 0. \quad (5)$$

In order to completely determine this series, we must know three things about it. Namely, the first term; the coefficients of  $x$ ; and the different

powers of  $x$  that make up the series. By differentiation of (4), we get

$$y' = \sum_0^\infty (m+2n)a_n x^{m+2n-1}; \quad y'' = \sum_0^\infty (m+2n)(m+2n-1)a_n x^{m+2n-2}.$$

By substitution of this result and (4) in equation (2), we have

$$\sum_0^\infty \{(m+2n)(m+2n-1)a_n x^{m+2n-2} - (m+2n+c)a_n x^{m+2n}\} = 0, \quad (6)$$

where  $n$  has all values from zero to infinity. If (5) is a solution of (2), equation (6) is identically zero, and the coefficient of each power of  $x$  must vanish. Hence, by equating the co-efficients of  $x^{m+2n}$ , and of  $x^{m+2n-2}$  to zero, we have

$$(m+2n)(m+2n-1)a_n x^{m+2n-2} - (m+2n+c)a_n x^{m+2n} = 0;$$

and replacing  $n$  by  $n-1$  in the second term, we get

$$(m+2n)(m+2n-1)a_n - (m+2n-2+c)a_{n-1} = 0; \quad (7)$$

since  $(m+2n)(m+2n-1) = 0$ , when  $n=0$ ,  $m(m-1) = 0$ ; consequently,  $m=0$ , or  $m=1$ ; for succeeding terms  $n$  is greater than zero, and the relation between any two consecutive terms is

$$a_n = \frac{m+2n-2+c}{(m+2n)(m+2n-1)} a_{n-1}. \quad (8)$$

This formula allows us to calculate the relation between the successive coefficients of  $x$  by giving  $n$  all integral values 1, 2, 3, . . . Let  $a_0$  be the first term.

First, suppose  $m=0$ , then we can easily calculate from (8),

$$a_1 = \frac{c}{1 \cdot 2} a_0; \quad a_2 = \frac{c+2}{3 \cdot 4} a_1 = \frac{c(c+2)}{4!} a_0; \dots$$

$$\therefore Y_1 = a_0 \left\{ 1 + \frac{c}{2!} x + \frac{c(c+2)}{4!} x^2 + \dots \right\}. \quad (9)$$

Next, put  $m=1$ , and, to prevent confusion, write  $b$ , in (8), in place of  $a$ .

$$b_n = \frac{c+2n-1}{2n(1n+1)} b_{n-1};$$

proceed exactly as before to find successively  $b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots$

$$\therefore Y_2 = b_0 \left\{ x + (c+1) \frac{x^3}{3!} + (c+1)(c+3) \frac{x^5}{5!} + \dots \right\}. \quad (10)$$

The complete solution of the equation is the sum of these two series, (9) and (10); or, if we put  $C_1 y_1 = Y_1$ ,  $C_2 y_2 = Y_2$ ,

$$y = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2,$$

which contains the two arbitrary constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ .

(ii.) *The particular integral.* By the above procedure we obtain the complementary function. For the particular integral, we must follow a somewhat similar method. *E.g.*, equate (7) to  $x^2$  instead of to zero. The coefficient of  $x^{m-2}$ , in (8) becomes

$$m(m-1)a_0 x^{m-2} = x^2.$$

A comparison of the exponents shows that

$$m-2=2; \text{ and } m(m-1)a_0=1; \therefore m=4; a_0=\frac{1}{12}.$$

From (8), when  $m=4$ ,

$$a_n = \frac{2+2n+c}{2(n+2)(2n+3)} a_{n-1},$$

Substitute successive values of  $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$  in the assumed expansion, and we obtain

$$\text{Particular integral} = a_0 x^4 + a_1 x^6 + a_2 x^8 + \dots,$$

where  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  and  $m$  have been determined.

(5) The following velocity equations have been proposed for the catalytic action of an enzyme upon salicine (J. W. Mellor's *Chemical Statics and Dynamics*, London, 380, 1904) :—

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = k_1(a - x - y)(c - y); \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = k_2y. \quad (11)$$

From Maclaurin's theorem,

$$x = x_0 + \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)_0 t + \left(\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}\right)_0 \frac{t^2}{2!} + \dots \quad (12)$$

Hence, when  $x = 0$ , and  $y = 0$ , equations (11) furnish

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)_0 = (k_2y)_0 = 0; \quad \therefore \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)_0 = k_1ac; \quad \left(\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}\right)_0 = k_1k_2ac = A, \text{ say.} \quad (13)$$

By differentiation of the first of equations (11), we get

$$\left(\frac{d^2y}{dt^2}\right)_0 = -k_1(a - x - y)\frac{dy}{dt} - k_1(c - y)\left(\frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{dy}{dt}\right); \quad (14)$$

and from the second of equations (11), (13), and (14),

$$\left(\frac{d^3x}{dt^3}\right)_0 = -k_1^2k_2ac(a + c) = B, \text{ say.} \quad (15)$$

Again, differentiating (14),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^3y}{dt^3} &= k_1 \left\{ \left(\frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{dy}{dt}\right)\frac{dy}{dt} - (a - x - y)\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + \frac{dy}{dt}\left(\frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{dy}{dt}\right) + (c - y)\left(\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}\right) \right\}; \\ \left(\frac{d^3y}{dt^3}\right)_0 &= 2k_1^3a^2c^2 + k_1^3a^2c(a + c) - k_1c\{k_1k_2ac - k_1^2ac(a + c)\}; \\ &= 2k_1^3a^2c^2 + k_1^3a^2c(a + c) - k_1^2k_2ac^2 + k_1^3ac^2(a + c) \\ &= k_1^3ac(a + c)^2 + 2k_1^3a^2c^2 - k_1^2k_2ac^2. \\ \therefore \left(\frac{d^4x}{dt^4}\right)_0 &= k_1^3k_2ac(a + c) + 2k_1^3k_2a^2c^2 - k_1^2k_2^2ac^2 + C, \text{ say.} \quad (16) \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, from (12), (13), (15), and (16), and collecting the constants together, under the symbols  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , ... we get

$$x = A\frac{t^2}{2!} + B\frac{t^3}{3!} + C\frac{t^4}{4!} + \dots; \quad \therefore y = \frac{A}{k_2}\frac{t}{1!} + \frac{B}{k_2}\frac{t^2}{2!} + \frac{C}{k_2}\frac{t^3}{3!} + \dots \quad (17)$$

We have expressed  $x$  and  $y$  in terms of  $t$  and constants.

A great number of the velocity equations of consecutive chemical reactions are turned out by the integral calculus in the form of an infinite series. If the series be convergent all may appear to be well. But another point must here be emphasized. The constants in the series are evaluated from the numerical data and the agreement between the calculated and the observed results is quoted in support of a theory. As a matter of fact the series formula is quite empirical. Scores of hypotheses might be suggested which would all furnish a similar relation between the variables, and "best values" for the constants can be determined in the same way. Of course if it were possible to evaluate the constants by independent processes, and the resulting expression gave results in harmony with the experimental material, we might have a little more faith

in the theory. These remarks in no way conflict with the discussion on page 324. There the constants were in questions, here we speak of the underlying theory.

But we are getting beyond the scope of this work. I hope enough has been said to familiarize the student with the notation and ideas employed in the treatment of differential equations so that when he consults more advanced books their pages will no longer appear as "unintelligible hieroglyphs". For more extensive practical details, the reader will have to take up some special work such as A. R. Forsyth's *Differential Equations*, London, 1903; W. E. Byerly's *Fourier's Series and Spherical Harmonics*, Boston, 1895. H. F. Weber and B. Riemann's *Die Partiellen Differential-Gleichungen der Mathematischen Physik*, Braunschweig, 1900-1901, is the text-book for more advanced work. A. Gray and G. B. Mathews have *A Treatise on Bessel's Functions and their Application to Physics*, London, 1895.

II. *Method of successive approximations.* This method resembles, in principle, that used for the approximate solution of numerical equations, page 358. When some of the terms of the given equation are small, solve the equation as if these terms did not exist. Thus the equation of motion for the small oscillations of a pendulum in air,

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + q^2\theta = a\left(\frac{d\theta}{dt}\right)^2; \text{ becomes } \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + q^2\theta = 0, \quad (18)$$

provided the right member  $a(d\theta/dt)^2$  is small. Solving the second of these equations by the method of page 401, we get  $\theta = -r \cos qt$ . If so then  $a(d\theta/dt)^2$  must be  $ar^2q^2\sin^2qt$ . Substituting this in the first of equations (18), and remembering that  $1 - \cos 2x = 2 \sin^2x$ , page 612, we get

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + q^2\theta = \frac{ar^2q^2}{2}(1 - \cos 2qt); \text{ or, } \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + q^2\left(\theta - \frac{ar^2}{2}\right) = -\frac{aq^2r^2}{2}\cos 2qt.$$

This gives  $\theta = \frac{1}{2}ar^2 + (r - \frac{2}{3}ar^2)\cos qt + \frac{1}{6}ar^2\cos 2qt$ , when solved, as on page 421, with the conditions that when  $t = 0$ ,  $\theta = r$ , and  $d\theta/dt = 0$ .

EXAMPLE.—A set of equations resembling those of Ex. (5), of the preceding set of examples is solved in *Technics*, 1, 514, 1904, by the method of successive approximation, and under the assumption that  $k_1$  and  $a$  are small in comparison with  $k_2$  and  $c$ . Hint. Differentiate the second of equations (11); multiply out the first; and on making the proper substitution

$$\frac{1}{k_2} \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \frac{k_1}{k_2} \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \frac{k_1}{k_2} (x - c - a) \frac{dx}{dt} + k_1 c (a - x). \quad (19)$$

GG \*



Neglect terms in  $k_1/k_2$ , and  $d^2(x - a)/dt^2 + q^2(x - a) = 0$  remains, if  $q^2$  be put in place of  $k_1ck_2$ . Hence,  $x - a = -a \cos qt$ , since  $x$  and  $y$  are both zero when  $t = 0$ . Differentiate and substitute the results in (19). We get

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + q^2(x - a) = -k_1(a \cos qt - c)aq \sin qt + \frac{k_1}{k_2}a^2q^2 \sin^2 qt;$$

$$\therefore \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + q^2(x - a) = q^3 \sin qt - \frac{a^2qk_1}{2} \sin 2qt + \frac{a^2q^2k_1}{2k_2}(1 - \cos 2qt),$$

which can be solved by the method of page 421. The complete (approximate) solution—particular integral and complimentary function—is

$$x - a = +a \cos qt - \frac{q^2t \cos qt}{2} + \frac{a^2k_1 \sin 2qt}{6q} + \frac{a^2k_1 \cos 2qt}{6k_2} + \frac{a^2k_1}{2k_2}.$$

This solution is not well fitted for practical work. It is too cumbrous.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### FOURIER'S THEOREM.

"Fourier's theorem is not only one of the most beautiful results of modern analysis, but may be said to furnish an indispensable instrument in the treatment of nearly every recondite question in modern physics. To mention only sonorous vibrations, the propagation of electric signals along a telegraph wire, and the conduction of heat by the earth's crust, as subjects in their generality intractable without it, is to give but a feeble idea of its importance."—THOMSON AND TAIT.

### § 148. Fourier's Series.

SOUND, as we all know, is produced whenever the particles of air are set into a certain state of vibratory motion. The to and fro motion of a pendulum may be regarded as the simplest form of vibration, and this is analogous to the vibration which produces a simple sound such as the fundamental note of an organ pipe. The periodic curve, Fig. 52, page 136, represented by the equations  $y = \sin x$ ; or  $y = \cos x$ , is a graphic representation of the motion which produces a simple sound.

A musical note, however, is more complex, it consists of a simple sound—called the fundamental note—compounded with a series of auxiliary vibrations—called overtones. The periodic curve of such a note departs greatly from the simplicity of that representing a simple sound. Fourier has shown that any periodic curve can be reproduced by compounding a series of harmonic curves along the same axis and having recurring periods  $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots$  th of the given curve. The only limitations are (i) the ordinates must be finite (page 243); (ii) the curve must always progress in the same direction. Fourier further showed that only one special combination of the elementary curves can be compounded to produce the given curve. This corresponds with the fact observed by Helm-

holtz that the same composite sound is always resolved into the same elementary sounds. A composite sound can therefore be represented, in mathematical symbols, as a series of terms arranged, not in a series of ascending powers of the independent variable, as in Maclaurin's theorem, but in a series of sines and cosines of multiples of this variable.

**Fourier's theorem** *determines the law for the expansion of any arbitrary function in terms of sines or cosines of multiples of the independent variable,  $x$ .* If  $f(x)$  is a periodic function with respect to time, space, temperature, or potential, Fourier's theorem states that

$$f(x) = A_0 + a_1 \sin x + a_2 \sin 2x + \dots + b_1 \cos x + b_2 \cos 2x + \dots \quad (1)$$

This is known as **Fourier's series**. It is easy to show, by plotting, as we shall do later on, that a trigonometrical series like that of Fourier passes through all its changes and returns to the same value when  $x$  is increased by  $2\pi$ . This mode of dealing with motion is said to be more advantageous than any other form of mathematical reasoning, and it has been applied with great success to physical problems involving potential, conduction of heat, light, sound, electricity and other forms of propagation. Any physical property—density, pressure, velocity—which varies periodically with time and whose magnitude or intensity can be measured, may be represented by Fourier's series.

In view of the fact that the terms of Fourier's series are all periodic we may say that *Fourier's series is an artificial way of representing the propagation or progression of any physical quality by a series of waves or vibrations.* "It is only a mathematical fiction," says Helmholtz, "admirable because it renders calculation easy, but not necessarily corresponding with anything in reality."

### § 149. Evaluation of the Constants in Fourier's Series.

Assuming Fourier's series to be valid between the limits  $x = +\pi$  and  $x = -\pi$ , we shall now proceed to find values for the coefficients  $A_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, b_1, b_2, \dots$ , which will make the series true.

*I. To find a value for the constant  $A_0$ .* Multiply equation (1) by  $dx$  and then integrate each term between the limits  $x = +\pi$  and  $x = -\pi$ . Every term involving sine or cosine term vanishes, and

$$2\pi A_0 = \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} f(x) \cdot dx; \text{ or, } A_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} f(x) \cdot dx, \quad (2)$$

remains. Therefore, when  $f(x)$  is known, this integral can be integrated.<sup>1</sup>

I strongly recommend the student to master §§ 74, 75, 83 before taking up this chapter.

II. To find a value for the coefficients of the cosine terms, say  $b_n$ , where  $n$  may be any number from 1 to  $n$ . Equation (1) must not only be multiplied by  $dx$ , but also by some factor such that all the other terms will vanish when the series is integrated between the limits  $\pm \pi$ ,  $b_n \cos nx$  remains. Such a factor is  $\cos nx \cdot dx$ . In this case,

$$\int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \cos^2 nx \cdot dx = b_n \pi,$$

(page 211), all the other terms involving sines or cosines, when integrated between the limits  $\pm \pi$ , will be found to vanish. Hence the desired value of  $b_n$  is

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} f(x) \cdot \cos nx \cdot dx. \quad (3)$$

This formula enables any coefficient,  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$  to be obtained. If we put  $n = 0$ , the coefficient of the first term  $A_0$  assumes the form,

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{2} b_0. \quad (4)$$

If this value is substituted in (1), we can dispense with (2), and write

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} b_0 + a_1 \sin x + b_1 \cos x + a_2 \sin 2x + b_2 \cos 2x + \dots \quad (5)$$

III. To find a value for the coefficients of the sine terms, say  $a_n$ . As before, multiply through with  $\sin nx dx$  and integrate between the limits  $\pm \pi$ . We thus obtain

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} f(x) \sin nx \cdot dx. \quad (6)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Problems like these are sometimes set for practice. Put  $\frac{2\pi t}{T} = x$ , in (1), and develop the curve Fig. 155. Note  $T$  is a special value of  $t$ . The series to be developed is

$$f(t) = A_0 + a_1 \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} + \dots + b_1 \cos \frac{2\pi t}{T} + \dots$$



FIG. 155.

<sup>1</sup> I have omitted details because the reader should find no difficulty in working out the results for himself. It is no more than an exercise on preceding work—page 211.

To evaluate  $A_0$ , multiply by the periodic time, i.e., by  $T$ , as in (2), and integrate between the limits 0 and  $T$ . From page 211.

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f(t) dt = \text{Average height of } f(t) = \frac{V}{2}.$$

For the constants of the cosine and sine terms, multiply respectively by  $\cos (2\pi t/T) dt$ , and by  $\sin (2\pi t/T) dt$  and integrate between the limits 0 and  $T$ . The answer is

$$f(t) = \frac{V}{2} + \frac{2V}{\pi} \left( \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{6\pi t}{T} + \frac{1}{5} \sin \frac{10\pi t}{T} + \dots \right).$$

Remember  $\sin 2n\pi$  is zero if  $n$  is odd or even;  $\cos 2n\pi$  is  $+1$  if  $n$  is even, and  $-1$  if  $n$  is odd or even. The integration in this section can all be done by the methods of §§ 73 and 75. Note, however,  $\int x \sin nx dx = n^{-2}(\sin nx - nx \cos nx)$ , on integration by parts.

(2) In Fig. 156, the straight lines sloping downwards from right to left

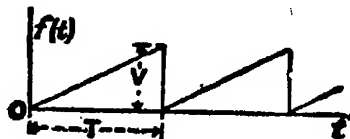


FIG. 156.

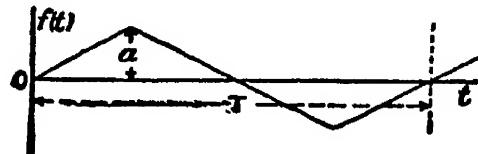


FIG. 157.

have the equation  $f(t) = mt$ , where  $m$  is a constant. When  $t = T$ ,  $f(t) = V$ , so that  $V = mT$ , or  $m = V/T$ ;  $\therefore f(t) = Vt/T$ . Hence show that

$$A_0 = \frac{V}{T} \int_0^T t \cdot dt = \frac{V}{2}; \quad a_1 = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T \frac{Vt}{T} \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} dt = -\frac{V}{\pi},$$

and also

$$f(t) = \frac{V}{\pi} \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{4\pi t}{T} - \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{6\pi t}{T} - \dots \right).$$

(3) In Fig. 157, you can see that  $A_0$  is zero because

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f(t) dt = \text{Average height of } f(t) = 0; \quad a_1 = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T f(t) \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} dt.$$

Now notice that  $f(t) = mt$  between the limits  $-\frac{1}{2}T$  and  $+\frac{1}{2}T$ ; and that when  $t = \frac{1}{2}T$ ,  $f(t) = a$  so that  $a = \frac{1}{2}mT$ ; and  $m = 4a/T$ ; while between the limits  $t = \frac{1}{2}T$ , and  $t = \frac{3}{2}T$ ,  $f(t) = 2a(1 - 2t/T)$ ; hence,

$$a_1 = \frac{2}{T} \int_{-\frac{1}{2}T}^{+\frac{1}{2}T} \frac{4at}{T} \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} dt + \frac{2}{T} \int_{\frac{1}{2}T}^{\frac{3}{2}T} 2a \left( 1 - \frac{2t}{T} \right) \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} dt = \frac{8a}{\pi^2}.$$

In a similar manner you can show that all the even  $a$ 's vanish, and all the  $b$ 's also vanish. Hence

$$f(t) = \frac{8a}{\pi} \left( \sin \frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{1}{9} \sin \frac{6\pi t}{T} + \frac{1}{25} \sin \frac{10\pi t}{T} - \dots \right).$$

There are several graphic methods for evaluating the coefficients of a Fourier's series. See J. Perry, *Electrician*, 28, 362, 1892; W. B. Woodhouse, the same journal, 46, 987, 1901; or, best of all, O. Henrioi, *Phil. Mag.* [5], 38, 110, 1894, when the series is used to express the electromotive force of an alternating current as a periodic function of the time.

### § 150. The Development of a Function in a Trigonometrical Series.

*I. The development of a trigonometrical series of sines.* Suppose it is required to find the value of

$$f(x) = x,$$

in terms of Fourier's theorem. From (2), (3) and (6),

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} x \cdot \cos nx \cdot dx = 0; \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} x \cdot \sin nx \cdot dx = \pm \frac{2}{n},$$

according as  $n$  is odd or even;

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} x \cdot dx = \frac{1}{4\pi} (\pi^2 - \pi^2) = 0.$$

Hence Fourier's series assumes the form

$$x = 2(\sin x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x - \dots), \quad (7)$$

which is known as a **sine series**; the cosine terms have disappeared during the integration.

By plotting the bracketed terms in (7) we obtain the series of curves shown in Fig. 158. Curve 1 has been obtained by plotting  $y = \sin x$ ; curve 2, by plotting  $y = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x$ ; curve 3, from

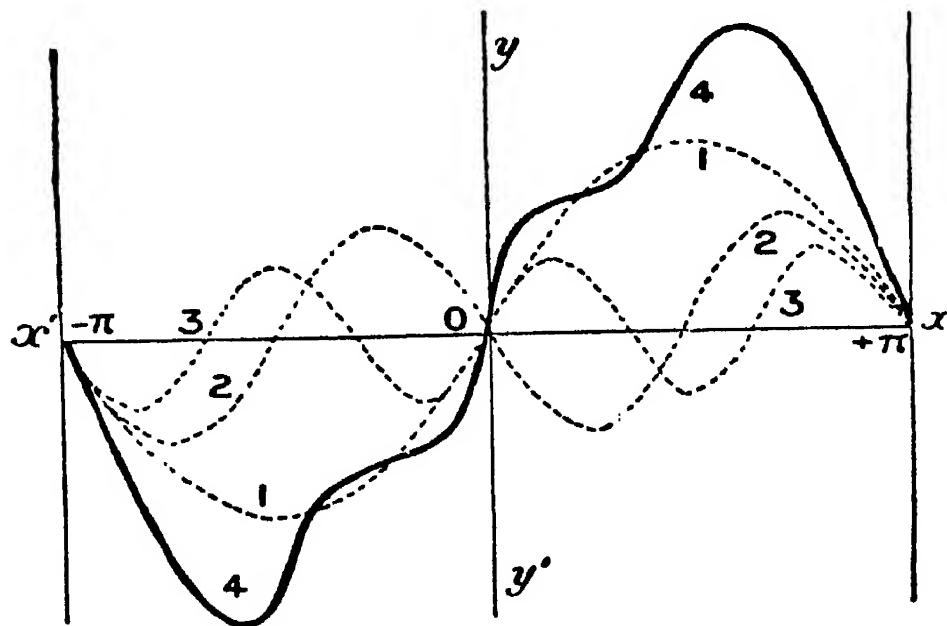


FIG. 158.—Harmonics of the Sine Curve.

$y = \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x$ . These curves, dotted in the diagram, represent the overtones or harmonics. Curve 4 has been obtained by drawing ordinates equal to the algebraic sum of the ordinates of the pre-

ceding curves. The general form of the **sine series** is

$$f(x) = a_1 \sin x + a_2 \sin 2x + a_3 \sin 3x + \dots, \quad (8)$$

where  $a$  has the value given in equation (6).

II. *The development of a trigonometrical series of cosines.* In illustration, let

$$f(x) = x^2,$$

be expanded by Fourier's theorem. Here

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} x^2 \cdot \cos nx \cdot dx = \mp \frac{4}{n^2},$$

according as  $n$  is odd or even. Also,

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} x^2 \sin nx \cdot dx = 0; \quad A_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} x^2 dx = \frac{1}{6\pi} \{ \pi^3 - (-\pi)^3 \} = \pi^2.$$

Hence,

$$x^2 = \frac{1}{3}\pi^2 - 4 \left( \cos x - \frac{1}{2^2} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos 3x - \dots \right). \quad (9)$$

By plotting the first three terms enclosed in brackets on the right side of (9), we obtain the series of curves shown in Fig. 159. The general development of a **cosine series** is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}b_0 + b_1 \cos x + b_2 \cos 2x + \dots, \quad (10)$$

where  $b$  has the values assigned in (3). As a general rule, any odd

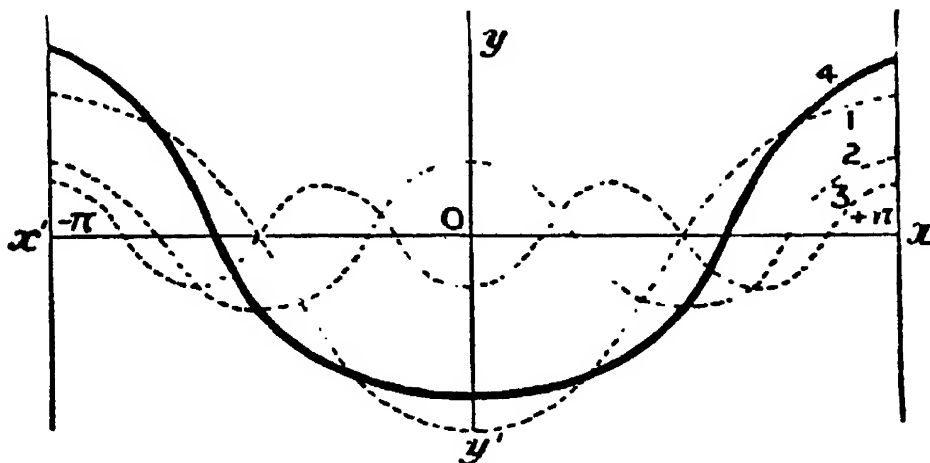


FIG. 159.—Harmonics of the Cosine Curve.

function of  $x$  will develop into a series of sines only, an even function of  $x$  will consist of a series of cosines. An **even function of  $x$**  is one which retains its value unchanged when the sign of the variable,  $x$ , is changed. *E.g.*, the sign of  $x^2$  is the same whether  $x$  be positive or negative;  $\cos x$  is equal to  $\cos(-x)$ , page 611, and therefore  $x^2$  and  $\cos x$  are even functions of  $x$ . If  $f(x)$  is

an even function of  $x$ ,  $f(x) = f(-x)$ . An odd function of  $x$  changes its magnitude when the sign of the variable  $x$  is changed. Thus,  $x, x^3, \dots$  and generally any odd power of an odd function, since  $\sin x = -\sin(-x)$ ,  $\sin x$  is an odd function of  $x$ ; generally if  $f(x)$  is an odd function of  $x$ ,  $f(x) = -f(-x)$ . In (8)  $f(x)$  is an odd function of  $x$ , and in (10),  $f(x)$  is an even function of  $x$  between the limits  $-\pi$  and  $+\pi$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Develop unity in a series of sines between the limits  $x = \pi$  and  $x = 0$ . Here  $f(x) = 1$ . Now perform the integrations with  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  and you will see that

$$a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \sin nx dx = \frac{2}{n\pi} (1 - \cos n\pi) = \frac{2}{n\pi} \{1 - (-1)^n\} = \frac{4}{n\pi}, \text{ or, } 0,$$

according as  $n$  is odd or even. Hence, from (8),

$$1 = \frac{4}{\pi} \left( \sin x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x + \dots \right). \quad (11)$$

The first three terms of this series are plotted in Fig. 160 in the usual way.

(2) Show that for  $x = \pm \pi$

$$e^x = \frac{2 \sinh \pi}{\pi} \left\{ \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cos x + \frac{1}{5} \cos 2x + \dots \right) + \left( \frac{1}{2} \sin x - \frac{2}{5} \sin 2x + \dots \right) \right\}. \quad (12)$$

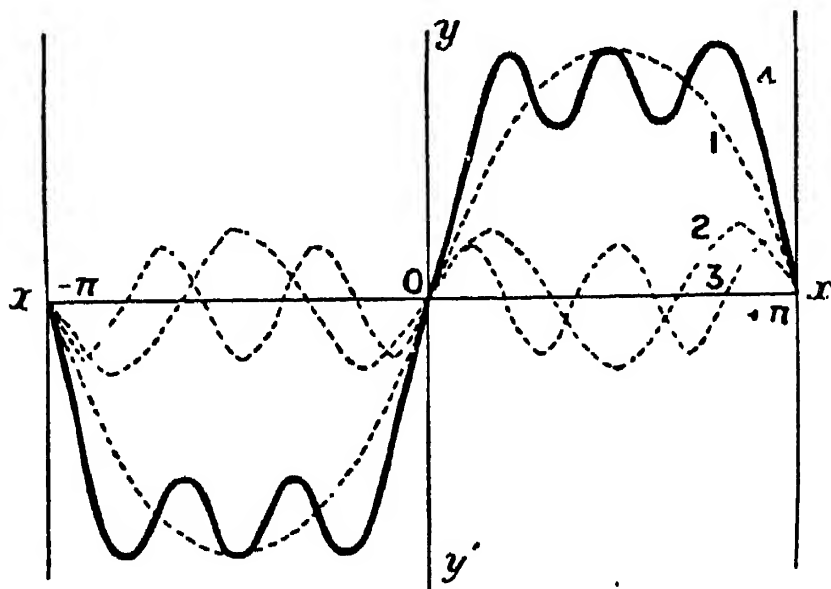


FIG. 160.—Harmonics of the Sine Development of Unity.

$$(3) \quad x \sin x = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \cos x - \frac{2}{3} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{4} \cos 3x - \frac{1}{5} \cos 4x + \dots \quad (13)$$

Establish this relation between the limits  $\pi$  and 0. If  $x = \frac{1}{2}\pi$ , then

$$\frac{1}{2}\pi = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} - \dots$$

$$(4) \quad \text{Show} \quad x = \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \left( \cos x + \frac{1}{9} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{25} \cos 5x + \dots \right). \quad (14)$$

$$b_0 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi x dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \frac{\pi^2}{2} = \pi;$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi x \cos nx \cdot dx = \frac{2}{n^2\pi} (\cos n\pi - 1) = \frac{2}{n^2\pi} \{(-1)^n - 1\}.$$



(5) Show that if  $c$  is constant,

$$c = \frac{4c}{\pi} \left( \sin x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x + \dots \right). \quad (15)$$

*III. Comparison of the sine and the cosine series.* The sine and cosine series are both periodic functions of  $x$ , with a period of  $2\pi$ . The above expansions hold good only between the limits  $x = \pm \pi$ , that is to say, when  $x$  is greater than  $-\pi$ , and less than  $+\pi$ . When  $x = 0$ , the series is necessarily zero, whatever be the value of the function. As a matter of fact any function can be represented both as a sine and as a cosine series. Although the functions and the two series will be equal for all values of  $x$  between  $x = \pi$  and  $x = 0$ , there is a difference between

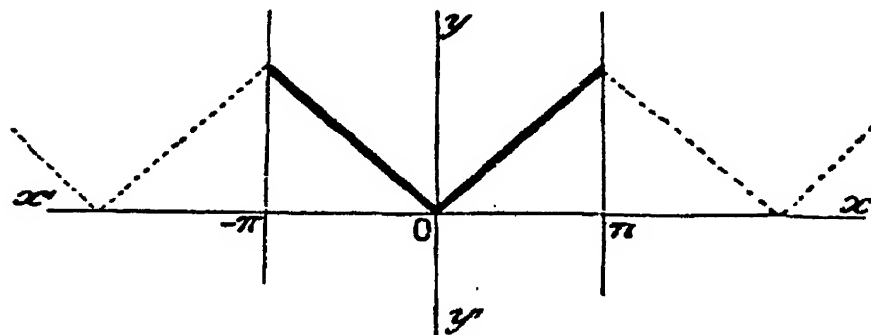


FIG. 161.—Diagrammatic Curve of the Cosine Series. between the limits  $x = 0$  and  $x = \pi$ , as shown in Figs. 158 and 159 above. Plot these equations for successive values of  $x$  between  $\pm \pi$ , etc. In the case of the cosine curve we get the lines shown diagrammatically in Fig. 161. By tracing the curves corresponding with still greater

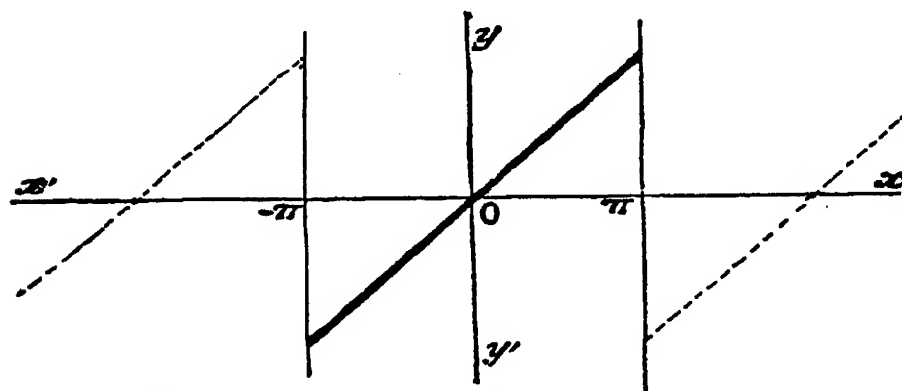


FIG. 162.—Diagrammatic Curve of the Sine Series. of page 171, for  $x = \pm \pi, y = 0$ ;  $x = \pm 3\pi, y = 0$ ; ... Both these curves coincide with  $y = x$  from  $x = 0$  to  $x = \pi$ , but not when  $x$  is less than  $-\pi$ , and greater than  $+\pi$ .

Instead of taking the final results bodily from the text-books, we had better get some practice in the work by following up the regular proofs.

## § 151. Extension of Fourier's Series.

Up to the present, the values of the variable in Fourier's series only extend over the range  $\pm \pi$ . The integration may however be extended so as to include all values of  $x$  between any limits whatever.

*I. The limits are  $x = +c$ ,  $x = -c$ .* Let  $f(x)$  be any function in which  $x$  is taken between the limits  $-c$  and  $+c$ . Change the variable from  $x$  to  $cz/\pi$ , so that  $z = \pi x/c$ . Hence,

$$f(x) = f\left(\frac{c}{\pi}z\right). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (16)$$

When  $x$  changes from  $-c$  to  $+c$ ,  $z$  changes from  $-\pi$  to  $+\pi$ , and, therefore, for all values of  $x$  between  $-c$  and  $+c$ , the function  $f(cz/\pi)$  may be developed as in Fourier's series (5), or

$$f\left(\frac{c}{\pi}z\right) = \frac{1}{2}b_0 + b_1 \cos z + a_1 \sin z + b_2 \cos 2z + a_2 \sin 2z + \dots \quad (17)$$

where,

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} f\left(\frac{c}{\pi}z\right) \cos nz \cdot dz; \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} f\left(\frac{c}{\pi}z\right) \sin nz \cdot dz. \quad (18)$$

This development (17) is true from  $+\pi$  to  $-\pi$ . From (16), therefore,

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}b_0 + b_1 \cos \frac{\pi x}{c} + a_1 \sin \frac{\pi x}{c} + b_2 \cos \frac{2\pi x}{c} + \dots \quad (19)$$

The coefficients  $a$  and  $b$  are the same as in (17), and consequently (19) holds good throughout the range  $\pm c$ . From (18), we have

$$b_n = \frac{1}{c} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{c} dx; \quad a_n = \frac{1}{c} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{c} dx. \quad (20)$$

Hence the rule: *Any arbitrary function, whose period ranges from  $-c$  to  $+c$ , so that  $T = 2c$ , can be represented as a series of trigonometrical functions with periods  $T$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}T$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}T$ ...*

EXAMPLES.—(1) From (19), show that the sine series, from  $x=0$  to  $x=c$ , is

$$f(x) = a_1 \sin \frac{\pi x}{c} + a_2 \sin \frac{2\pi x}{c} + a_3 \sin \frac{3\pi x}{c} + \dots \quad (21)$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{c} \int_0^c f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{c} dx. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (22)$$

And for the cosine series, from  $x=0$  to  $x=c$ , we have

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}b_0 + b_1 \cos \frac{\pi x}{c} + b_2 \cos \frac{2\pi x}{c} + \dots \quad (23)$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{c} \int_0^c f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{c} dx. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (24)$$

(2) Prove the following series for values of  $x$  from  $x = 0$  to  $x = c$  :—

$$c = \frac{4c}{\pi} \left( \sin \frac{\pi x}{c} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{c} + \frac{1}{5} \sin \frac{5\pi x}{c} + \dots \right). \quad (25)$$

$$mx = \frac{2mc}{\pi} \left( \sin \frac{\pi x}{c} - \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{c} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{c} - \dots \right). \quad (26)$$

$$mx = \frac{m\pi}{2} - \frac{4m}{\pi} \left( \cos \frac{\pi x}{c} + \frac{1}{3^2} \cos \frac{3\pi x}{c} + \frac{1}{5^2} \cos \frac{5\pi x}{c} + \dots \right). \quad (27)$$

Hint. (26) is  $f(x) = mx$  developed in a series of sines; (27) the same function developed in a series of cosines.

$$(3) \text{ If } f(x) = x \text{ between } \pm c; x = \frac{2c}{\pi} \left( \sin \frac{\pi x}{c} - \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi x}{c} + \dots \right). \quad (28)$$

II. The limits are  $+\infty$  and  $-\infty$ . Since the above formulæ are true, whatever be the value of  $c$ , the limiting value obtained when  $c$  becomes infinitely great should be true for all values of  $x$ . Let us look closer into this, and in order to prevent mistakes in working, and to show that equations (20) have been integrated, we may write, as indicated on page 232,

$$b_n = \frac{1}{c} \left[ \int f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{c} dx \right]_{-c}^{+c}; \quad a_n = \frac{1}{c} \left[ \int f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{c} dx \right]_{-c}^{+c};$$

but it is more convenient to put  $\lambda$  in place of  $x$  to denote that the expression has been integrated. Accordingly, we get

$$b_n = \frac{1}{c} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(\lambda) \cos \frac{n\pi \lambda}{c} d\lambda; \quad a_n = \frac{1}{c} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(\lambda) \sin \frac{n\pi \lambda}{c} d\lambda. \quad (29)$$

Substitute these values of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, b_0, b_1, \dots$ , in (19), and we get, by the series of trigonometrical transformations, (24), (13), (6), page 609 *et seq.*,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{c} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(\lambda) d\lambda + \int_{-c}^{+c} \left\{ f(\lambda) \cos \frac{\pi \lambda}{c} \cos \frac{\pi x}{c} d\lambda + \dots \right\} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{-c}^{+c} \left\{ f(\lambda) \sin \frac{\pi \lambda}{c} \sin \frac{\pi x}{c} d\lambda + \dots \right\} \right]; \\ &= \frac{1}{c} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(\lambda) d\lambda \left\{ \frac{1}{2} + \left( \cos \frac{\pi \lambda}{c} \cos \frac{\pi x}{c} + \sin \frac{\pi \lambda}{c} \sin \frac{\pi x}{c} \right) + \dots \right\}; \\ &= \frac{1}{c} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(\lambda) d\lambda \left\{ \frac{1}{2} + \cos \frac{\pi}{c} (\lambda - x) + \cos \frac{2\pi}{c} (\lambda - x) + \dots \right\}; \\ &= \frac{1}{2c} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(\lambda) d\lambda \left\{ 1 + 2 \cos \frac{\pi}{c} (\lambda - x) + 2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{c} (\lambda - x) + \dots \right\}; \\ &= \frac{1}{2c} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(\lambda) d\lambda \left\{ 1 + \cos \frac{\pi}{c} (\lambda - x) + \cos \left( -\frac{\pi}{c} \right) (\lambda - x) + \dots \right\}; \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-c}^{+c} f(\lambda) d\lambda \left\{ \frac{\pi}{c} \cos \frac{0\pi}{c} (\lambda - x) + \frac{\pi}{c} \cos \frac{\pi}{c} (\lambda - x) + \dots \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\pi}{c} \cos \left( -\frac{\pi}{c} \right) (\lambda - x) + \dots \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

As  $c$  is increased indefinitely, the limiting value of the term in brackets is  $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \cos \frac{n\pi}{c}(\lambda - x) d\frac{n\pi}{c}$ . Let  $a = \frac{n\pi}{c}$ ,  $n$  being any integer,  $f(x)$  assumes the form

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\lambda) d\lambda \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \cos a(\lambda - x) da, \quad (30)$$

for all values of  $x$ . The double integral in (30) is known as **Fourier's integral**.

It is sometimes convenient to refer to the following alternative way of writing Fourier's series :

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{c} \int_0^c f(\lambda) \cdot d\lambda + \frac{2}{c} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{c} \cos \frac{n\pi \lambda}{c} f(\lambda) \cdot d\lambda, \quad (31)$$

true for any value of  $x$  between 0 and  $c$ .

EXAMPLE.—Find an expression equal to  $v$  when  $x$  lies between 0 and  $a$ , and equal to zero, when  $x$  lies between  $a$  and  $b$ . Here  $f(\lambda) = v$ , from  $\lambda = 0$  to  $\lambda = a$ , and  $f(\lambda) = 0$ , from  $\lambda = a$  to  $\lambda = b$ ;  $c = b$ ;  $\cos \frac{n\pi \lambda}{c} f(\lambda) \cdot d\lambda$ , becomes  $v \int_0^a \cos \frac{n\pi \lambda}{b} d\lambda$ , or,  $\frac{vb}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi a}{b}$ . Hence the required expression is,

$$f(x) = \frac{va}{b} + \frac{2v}{\pi} \left( \sin \frac{\pi a}{b} \cdot \cos \frac{\pi x}{b} + \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi a}{b} \cdot \cos \frac{2\pi x}{b} + \dots \right),$$

when  $x = a$ , this expression reduces to  $\frac{1}{2}v$ .

III. *Different forms of Fourier's integral.* Fourier's integral may be written in different equivalent forms. From page 241,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \cos x dx &= \int_{-\infty}^0 \cos x dx + \int_0^{\infty} \cos x dx; \\ \int_{-\infty}^0 \cos x dx &= \int_{\infty}^0 \cos(-x) d(-x) = - \int_{\infty}^0 \cos x dx; \\ \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \cos x dx &= 2 \int_0^{\infty} \cos x dx. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we may write in place of (30),

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\lambda) d\lambda \int_0^{\infty} \cos a(\lambda - x) da, \quad (32)$$

where the integration limits in (32) are independent of  $a$  and  $\lambda$ , and therefore the integration can be performed in any order. Again, if  $f(x)$  is an even or an odd function, (32) can be simplified.

(i) Let  $f(x)$  be an odd function of  $x$ , page 475, so that

$$f(x) = -f(-x), \text{ or, } -f(x) = f(-x),$$

then, by means of the trigonometrical transformations of page 611, and the results on page 241,

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\lambda) d\lambda \int_0^{+\infty} \cos a(\lambda - x) da = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} da \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\lambda) \cos a(\lambda - x) d\lambda; \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} da \int_{-\infty}^0 f(\lambda) \cos a(\lambda - x) d\lambda + \int_0^{+\infty} f(\lambda) \cos a(\lambda - x) d\lambda; \\
 f(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} da \int_{-\infty}^0 f(-\lambda) \cos a(-\lambda - x) d(-\lambda) + \int_0^{+\infty} f(\lambda) \cos a(\lambda - x) d\lambda; \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} da \left\{ - \int_0^{+\infty} f(\lambda) \cos a(\lambda + x) d\lambda \right\} + \int_0^{+\infty} f(\lambda) \cos a(\lambda - x) d\lambda; \\
 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} da \int_0^{+\infty} f(\lambda) \left\{ \cos a(\lambda - x) - \cos a(\lambda + x) \right\} d\lambda; \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} da \int_0^{+\infty} f(\lambda) \sin a\lambda \cdot \sin ax \cdot d\lambda; \\
 \therefore f(x) &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} f(\lambda) d\lambda \int_0^{+\infty} \sin a\lambda \cdot \sin ax \cdot da, \quad (33)
 \end{aligned}$$

which is true for all odd functions of  $f(x)$  and for all positive values of  $x$  in any function.

(ii) Let  $f(x)$  be an even function of  $x$ , page 474, so that

$$f(x) = f(-x).$$

We can then reduce (32) in the same way to the Fourier's integral

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} f(\lambda) d\lambda \int_0^{+\infty} \cos a\lambda \cdot \cos ax \cdot da, \quad (34)$$

which is true for all values of  $x$  when  $f(x)$  is an even function of  $x$  and for all positive values of  $x$  in any function.

Although the integrals of Fourier's series are obtained by integrating the series term by term, it does not follow that the series can be obtained by differentiating the integrated series term by term, for while differentiation makes a series less convergent, integration makes it more convergent. In other words, a converging series *may* become divergent on differentiation. This raises another question—the convergency of Fourier's series. In the preceding developments it has been assumed :

(i) That the trigonometrical series is uniformly convergent.

(ii) That the series is really equal to  $f(x)$ .

Elaborate investigations have been made to find if these assumptions can be justified. The result has been to prove that the above developments are valid in every case when the function is single-valued and finite between the limits  $\pm \pi$ ; and has only a finite number of maximum or minimum values between the

limits  $x = \pm \pi$ . The curve  $y = f(x)$  need not follow the same law throughout its whole length, but may be made up of several entirely different curves. A complete representation of a periodic function for all values of  $x$  would provide for developing each term as a periodic series, each of which would itself be a periodic function, and so on.

An adequate discussion of the conditions of convergency of Fourier's series must be omitted. W. E. Byerly's *An Elementary Treatise on Fourier's Series*, etc., is one of the best practical works on the use of Fourier's integrals in mathematical physics. J. Fourier's pioneer work *Théorie analytique de la Chaleur*, Paris, 1822, is perhaps as modern as any other work on this subject; see also W. Williams, *Phil. Mag.* [5], 42, 125, 1896; Lord Kelvin's *Collected Papers*; and Riemann-Weber's work (*l.c.*), etc.

### § 152. Fourier's Linear Diffusion Law.

Let  $AB$  be any plane section in a metal rod of unit sectional area (Fig. 163). Let this section at any instant of time have a uniform temperature—equi-thermal surface—and let the temperature on the left side of the plane  $AB$  be higher than that on the right. In consequence, heat will flow from the hot to the cold side, in the direction of the arrow, across the surface  $AB$ . Fourier assumes, (i) The *direction* of the flow is perpendicular to the section  $AB$ ; (ii) The *rate* of flow of heat across any given section, is proportional to the difference of temperature on the two sides of the plate.

Let the rate of flow be uniform, and let  $\theta$  denote the temperature of the plane  $AB$ . The rate of rise of temperature at any point in the plane  $AB$ , is  $d\theta/ds$ —the so-called temperature *gradient*. The amount of heat which flows, per second, from the hot to the cooler end of the rod, is  $-a \cdot d\theta/ds$ , where  $a$  is a constant denoting the heat that flows, per second,

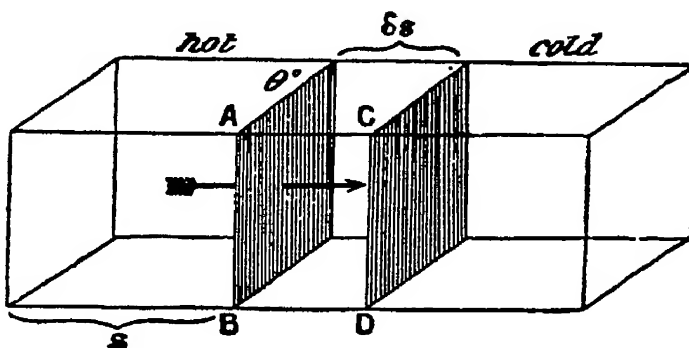


FIG. 163.

through unit area, when the temperature gradient is unity. Consider now the value of  $-a \cdot d\theta/ds$  at another point in the plane  $CD$ , distant  $\delta s$  from  $AB$ ; this distance is to be taken so small, that the temperature gradient may be taken as constant. The

temperature at the point  $s + \delta s$ , will be  $\left(\theta - \frac{d\theta}{ds}\delta s\right)$ , since  $-\frac{d\theta}{ds}$  is the rate of rise of temperature along the bar, and this, multiplied by  $\delta s$ , denotes the rise of temperature as heat passes from the point  $s$  to  $s + \delta s$ . Hence the amount of heat flowing through the small section  $ABCD$  will be

$$- a \frac{d}{ds} \left( \theta - \frac{d\theta}{ds} \delta s \right); \text{ and } + a \frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2} \delta s, \quad . \quad . \quad (34)$$

will denote the difference between the amount of heat which flows in at one face and out at the other. This expression, therefore, denotes the amount of heat which is added to the space  $ABCD$  every second. If  $\sigma$  denotes the thermal capacity of unit volume, the thermal capacity of the portion  $ABCD$  is  $(1 \times \delta s)\sigma$ . Hence the rate of rise of temperature per unit area is  $\sigma(d\theta/dt)\delta s$ . Therefore,

$$a \frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2} \delta s = \sigma \frac{d\theta}{dt} \delta s. \quad . \quad . \quad (35)$$

Put  $a/\sigma = \kappa$ ; this equation may then be written,

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} \cdot \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (36)$$

where  $\kappa$  is the diffusivity of the substance. Equation (36) represents **Fourier's law of linear diffusion**. It covers all possible cases of diffusion where the substances concerned are in the same condition at all points in any plane parallel to a given plane. It is written more generally

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} \cdot \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{d^2V}{dx^2}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (37)$$

If we had studied the propagation of the "disturbance" in three dimensions, instead of the simple case of linear propagation—in one direction—equation (37) would have assumed the form,

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} \cdot \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} + \frac{d^2V}{dy^2} + \frac{d^2V}{dz^2}. \quad . \quad . \quad (38)$$

Lord Kelvin calls  $V$  the *quality* of the substance at the time  $t$ , at a distance  $x$  from a fixed plane of reference. The differential equation (37), therefore, shows that the rate of increase of quality per unit time, is equal to the product of the diffusivity and the rate of increase of  $dV/ds$ , i.e. quality per unit of space. The quality depends on the subject of the diffusion. For example, it may

denote one of the three components of the velocity of the motion of a viscous fluid, the density or strength of an electric current per unit area perpendicular to the direction of flow, temperature, the potential at any point in an isolated conductor, or the concentration of a given solution. Ohm's law is but a special case of Fourier's linear diffusion law. Fick's law of diffusion is another. The transmission of telephonic messages through a cable, and indeed any phenomenon of linear propagation, is included in this law of Fourier.

### § 153. Application to the Diffusion of Salts in Solution.

Fill a small cylindrical tube of unit sectional area with a solution of some salt (Fig. 164). Let the tube and contents be submerged in a vessel containing a great quantity of water, so that the open end of the cylindrical vessel, containing the salt solution, dips just beneath the surface of the water. Salt solution passes out of the diffusion vessel and sinks towards the bottom of the larger vessel. The upper brim of the diffusion vessel, therefore, is assumed to be always in contact with pure water. Let  $h$  denote the height of the liquid in the diffusion tube, reckoned from the bottom to the top. The salt diffuses according to Fourier's law,

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \kappa \frac{d^2 V}{dx^2}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

which is known as **Fick's law of diffusion** of substances in solution.

*I. To find the concentration,  $V$ , of the dissolved substance at different levels,  $x$ , of the diffusion vessel after the elapse of any stated interval of time,  $t$ .* This is equivalent to finding a solution of Fick's equation, which will satisfy the conditions under which the experiment is conducted. These so-called **limiting conditions** are: (i) when

$$x = 0, \quad \frac{dV}{dx} = 0; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

$dV/dx = 0$  means that no salt goes out from, and no salt enters the solution at this point. (ii) when

$$x = h, \quad V = 0; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

and (iii) when

$$t = 0, \quad V = V_0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

The reader must be quite clear about this before going any further.



What do  $V$ ,  $x$  and  $t$  mean?  $V_0$  evidently represents the concentration of the salt solution at the beginning of the experiment;  $V$  is the concentration of the solution expressed in, say, gram molecules of salt per litre of solution, at a distance  $x$  from the bottom of the inner vessel (Fig. 164) at the time  $t$ ; at the top of the diffusion vessel, obviously  $x = h$ , and  $V$  is zero, because there the water is pure; the first condition means that at the

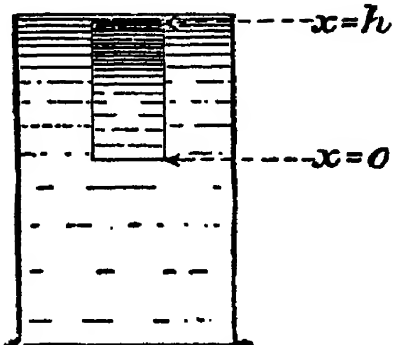


FIG. 164.

bottom of the diffusion vessel, the concentration may be assumed to be constant during the experiment.

First deduce particular solutions. Following the method of page 462, assume tentatively that

$$V = e^{\alpha x + \beta t} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

is a solution of (1), when  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are constants. Substitute this in (1), and we get

$$\beta = \kappa \alpha^2. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

Hence, if (6) is true, (5) is a solution of (1) whatever be the value of  $\alpha$ . Hence it is true when  $\alpha = i\mu$ .

$$\therefore V = e^{i\mu x + \beta t} = e^{i\mu x + \kappa \alpha^2 t} = e^{i\mu x - \kappa \mu^2 t}.$$

Consequently

$$V = e^{-\kappa \mu^2 t} e^{i\mu x}; \text{ and } V = e^{-\kappa \mu^2 t} e^{-i\mu x}$$

are both solutions of (1). Hence the sum and difference

$$V = \frac{1}{2} e^{-\kappa \mu^2 t} (e^{i\mu x} \pm e^{-i\mu x})$$

are also solutions of (1); and from Euler's sine and cosine series, page 285,

$$V = a e^{-\kappa \mu^2 t} \cos \mu x; \text{ and } V = b e^{-\kappa \mu^2 t} \sin \mu x, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants, as well as

$$V = (a \cos \mu x + b \sin \mu x) e^{-\kappa \mu^2 t}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

are solutions of the given equation. It remains to fit the constants  $a$  and  $b$  in with the three given conditions.

Condition i, when  $x = 0$ ,  $dV/dx = 0$ . Differentiate (8) with respect to  $x$ , and we get

$$\frac{dV}{dx} = (-\mu a \sin \mu x + \mu b \cos \mu x) e^{-\kappa \mu^2 t}.$$

Now when  $x = 0$ ,  $\sin \mu x$  vanishes, and when  $x = 0$ ,  $\cos \mu x = 1$ . Consequently  $b$  must be zero, if  $dV/dx$  is to be zero when  $x = 0$ . Hence (5), i.e. (8), satisfies the first condition.

Condition ii, when  $x = h$ ,  $V = 0$ . In order that (8) may satisfy the second condition, we must have  $\cos \mu h = 0$ , when  $x = h$ . But

$$\cos \frac{1}{2}\pi = \cos \frac{3}{2}\pi = \dots = \cos \frac{1}{2}(2n-1)\pi = 0,$$

where  $\pi = 180^\circ$  and  $n$  is any integer from 1 to  $\infty$ . Hence, we must have  $\mu h = \frac{1}{2}\pi$ ;  $\mu h = \frac{3}{2}\pi$ ;  $\dots$ , or

$$\mu = \frac{\pi}{2h}; = \frac{3\pi}{2h}; = \frac{5\pi}{2h}; \dots = \frac{(2n-1)\pi}{2h};$$

in order that  $\cos \mu h$  may vanish. Substitute these values of  $\mu$  successively in (8) and add the results together; we thus obtain

$$V = a_1 e^{-\left(\frac{\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} \cos \frac{\pi x}{2h} + a_2 e^{-\left(\frac{3\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} \cos \frac{3\pi x}{2h} + \dots \text{to inf.}, \quad (9)$$

which satisfies two of the required conditions, namely (1) and (2).

Condition iii, when  $t = 0$ ,  $V = V_0$ , we must evaluate the coefficients  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  in (9), in such a way that the third condition may be satisfied by the particular solution (8), or rather (9). This is done by allowing for the initial conditions, when  $t = 0$ , in the usual way. When  $t = 0$ ,  $V = V_0$ . Therefore, from (9),

$$V_0 = a_1 \cos \frac{\pi x}{2h} + a_2 \cos \frac{3\pi x}{2h} + \dots, \quad (10)$$

is true for all values of  $x$  between 0 and  $h$ . Hence,

$$a_1 = \frac{2V_0}{h} \int_0^h \cos \frac{\pi x}{2h} dx; \quad a_2 = \frac{2V_0}{h} \int_0^h \cos \frac{3\pi x}{2h} dx; \dots a_n = \frac{4V_0}{(2n-1)\pi}. \quad (11)$$

These results have been obtained by equating each term of (9) to zero, and integrating between the limits 0 and  $h$ . Substituting these values of  $a_0, a_1, \dots$  in (9), we get a solution satisfying the limiting conditions of the experiment. If desired, we can write the resulting series in the compact form,

$$V = \frac{4V_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n+1} e^{-\left(\frac{2n+1}{2h}\pi\right)^2 \kappa t} \cos \frac{2n+1}{2h} \pi x, \quad (12)$$

where the summation sign between the limits  $n = \infty$  and  $n = 0$  means that  $n$  is to be given every positive integral value 0, 1, 2, 3  $\dots$  to infinity, and all the results added together.

If we reckon  $h$  from the top of the diffusion vessel  $x = 0$  at the top, and, at the bottom,  $x = h$ , hence it follows, by the same method, that

$$V = \frac{4V_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n+1} e^{-\left(\frac{2n+1}{2h}\pi\right)^2 \kappa t} \sin \frac{2n+1}{2h} \pi x. \quad (13)$$

We could have introduced a fourth condition  $dV/dx = 0$ , when

$x = h$ , but it would lead to the same result, as we shall see in one of the subjoined examples, *viz.*, Ex. (1).

EXAMPLES.—(1) T. Graham's diffusion experiments (*Phil. Trans.*, 151, 188, 1861). A cylindrical vessel 152 mm. high, and 87 mm. in diameter, contained 0.7 litre of water. Below this was placed 0.1 litre of a salt solution. The fluid column was then 127 mm. high. After the elapse of a certain time, successive portions of 100 c.c., or  $\frac{1}{8}$  of the total volume of the fluid, were removed and the quantity of salt determined in each layer. Here  $x = 0$  at the bottom of the vessel, and  $x = H$  at the top;  $x = h$  at the surface separating the solution from the liquid when  $t = 0$ . The vessel has unit area. The limiting conditions are: At the end of a certain time  $t$ , (i) when  $x = 0$ ,  $dV/dx = 0$ ; and (ii) when  $x = H$ ,  $dV/dx = 0$ ; (iii) when  $t = 0$ ,  $V = V_0$  between  $x = 0$  and  $x = h$ ; (iv) when  $t = 0$ ,  $V = 0$  between  $x = h$  and  $x = H$ . To adapt these results to Fourier's solution of Fick's equation, first show that (6) is a particular integral of Fick's equation. Differentiate (8) with respect to  $x$  and show that for the first condition we must have  $b$  zero, and condition (i) is satisfied. For condition (ii),  $\sin \mu H$  must be zero; but  $\sin n\pi$  is zero; hence we can put

$$\mu H = n\pi; \text{ or, } \mu = \frac{n\pi}{H},$$

where  $n$  has any value 0, 1, 2, 3, ... Adding up all the particular integrals, we have

$$V = a_0 + a_1 \cos \frac{\pi x}{H} e^{-\left(\frac{\pi}{H}\right)^2 \kappa t} + a_2 \cos \frac{2\pi x}{H} e^{-\left(\frac{2\pi}{H}\right)^2 \kappa t} + \dots$$

where the constants  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  have to be adapted to conditions (iii) and (iv). For condition (iii), when  $t = 0$ ,  $V = V_0$ , consequently,

$$V_0 = a_0 + a_1 \cos \frac{\pi x}{H} + a_2 \cos \frac{2\pi x}{H} + \dots,$$

from  $x = 0$ , to  $x = h$ . For condition (iv), substitute  $V = 0$ , from  $x = h$  to  $x = H$ . Hence, from (4), page 241,

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{H} \int_0^H V_0 dx = \frac{1}{H} \left\{ \int_h^H 0 \cdot dx + \int_0^h V_0 dx \right\} = \frac{V_0 h}{H}.$$

In the same way it can be shown that

$$a_n = \frac{2}{H} \int_0^H V_0 \cos \frac{n\pi x}{H} dx = \frac{2V_0}{n\pi} \int_0^h \cos \frac{n\pi x}{H} d\left(\frac{n\pi x}{H}\right) = \frac{2V_0}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi h}{H}.$$

Hence, taking all these conditions into account, the general solution appears in the form,

$$V = \frac{V_0 h}{H} + \frac{2V_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin \frac{n\pi h}{H} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{H} e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{H}\right)^2 \kappa t}, \quad (14)$$

which is a standard equation for this kind of work. In Graham's experiments,  $h = \frac{1}{8}H$ . Hence the concentration  $V$  in any plane, distant  $x$  units from the bottom of the diffusion vessel, is obtained from the infinite series:

$$V = \frac{V_0}{8} + \frac{2V_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin \frac{n\pi}{8} \cdot \cos \frac{n\pi x}{H} e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{H}\right)^2 \kappa t}. \quad (15)$$

An infinite series is practically useful only when the series converges rapidly, and the higher terms have so small an influence on the result that

all but the first terms may be neglected. This is often effected by measuring the concentration at different levels  $x$ , so related to  $H$  that  $\cos(n\pi x/H)$  reduces to unity; also by making  $t$  very great, the second and higher terms become vanishingly small.

(2) H. F. Weber's diffusion experiments (*Wied. Ann.*, 7, 469, 536, 1879; or *Phil. Mag.*, [5], 8, 487, 523, 1879). A concentrated solution of zinc sulphate (0.25 to 0.35 grm. per c.c. of solution) was placed in a cylindrical vessel on the bottom of which was fixed a round smooth amalgamated zinc disc (about 7.1 cm. diam.). A more dilute solution (0.15 to 0.20 grm. per c.c.) was poured over the concentrated solution, and another amalgamated zinc plate was placed just beneath the surface of the upper layer of liquid. It is known that if  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$  denote the respective concentrations of the lower and upper layers of liquid, the difference of potential  $E$ , due to these differences of concentrations, is given by the expression

$$E = A(V_2 - V_1)\{1 + B(V_2 + V_1)\}, \quad (16)$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are known constants,  $B$  being very small in comparison with  $A$ . This difference of potential or electromotive force, can be employed to determine the difference in the concentrations of the two solutions about the zinc electrodes. To adapt these conditions to Fick's equation, let  $h_1$  be the height of the lower,  $h_2$  of the upper solution, therefore  $h_1 + h_2 = H$ . The limiting conditions to be satisfied for all values of  $t$ , are  $dV/dx = 0$ , when  $x = 0$ , and  $dV/dx = 0$ , when  $x = H$ . The initial conditions when  $t = 0$ , are  $V = V_2$ , for all values of  $x$  between  $x = h$  and  $x = H$ . From this proceed exactly as in Ex. (3), and show that

$$a_0 = \frac{V_1 h_1 + V_2 h_2}{H}; \quad a_n = -\frac{2(V_2 - V_1)}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \sin \frac{n\pi h_1}{H};$$

and the general solution

$$V = \frac{V_1 h_1 + V_2 h_2}{H} - \frac{2(V_2 - V_1)}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin \frac{n\pi h_1}{H} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{H} e^{-\frac{n^2 \pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}}. \quad (17)$$

This equation only applies to the variable concentrations of the boundary layers  $x = 0$  and  $x = H$ . It is necessary to adapt it to equation (16). Let the layers  $x = 0$  and  $x = H$ , have the variable concentrations  $V'$  and  $V''$  respectively.

$$\begin{aligned} V' &= \frac{V_1 h_1 + V_2 h_2}{H} - \frac{2(V_2 - V_1)}{\pi} \left\{ \sin \frac{\pi h_1}{H} e^{-\frac{\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}} + \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi h_1}{H} e^{-\frac{4\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}} + \dots \right\}, \\ V'' &= \frac{V_1 h_1 + V_2 h_2}{H} + \frac{2(V_2 - V_1)}{\pi} \left\{ \sin \frac{\pi h_1}{H} e^{-\frac{\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}} - \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi h_1}{H} e^{-\frac{4\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}} + \dots \right\}, \\ V'' - V' &= \frac{4(V_2 - V_1)}{\pi} \left\{ \sin \frac{\pi h_1}{H} e^{-\frac{\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi h_1}{H} e^{-\frac{9\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}} + \dots \right\}, \\ V'' + V' &= 2 \frac{V_1 h_1 + V_2 h_2}{H} - \frac{4(V_2 - V_1)}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{2\pi h_1}{H} e^{-\frac{4\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}} + \frac{1}{4}, \text{ etc. } \dots \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

In actual work,  $H$  was made very small. After the lapse of one day ( $t = 1$ ), the terms  $\frac{1}{2} \sin \frac{4\pi h_1}{H}$ , etc., and  $\frac{1}{4} \sin \frac{5\pi h_1}{H}$ , etc., were less than  $\frac{1}{100}$ . Hence all terms beyond these are outside the range of experiment, and may, therefore, be neglected. Now  $h$  was made as nearly as possible equal to  $\frac{1}{2}H$ , in order that the term  $\frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi h_1}{H}$ , etc., might vanish. Hence,

$$V'' - V' = \frac{4(V_2 - V_1)}{\pi} \sin \frac{\pi}{8} \cdot e^{-\frac{4\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}}.$$

$$V'' + V' = \frac{2(V_1 h_1 + V_2 h_2)}{H} - \frac{2(V_2 - V_1)}{\pi} \sin \frac{2\pi}{8} \cdot e^{-\frac{4\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}}.$$

Now substitute these values of  $V'' - V'$  and  $V'' + V'$  in (16), observing that  $\pi$ ,  $V_2$ ,  $V_1$ ,  $h_1$ ,  $h_2$ ,  $\sin \frac{1}{8}\pi$ ,  $\sin \frac{3}{8}\pi$  and  $H$ , are all constants, and that  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  become respectively  $V'$  and  $V''$  when  $t=0$ . The difference of potential  $E$ , between the two electrodes, due to the difference of concentration between the two boundary layers  $V'$  and  $V''$  is

$$E = A(V'' - V')\{1 + B(V'' + V')\} = A_1 e^{-\frac{\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}} + B_1 e^{-\frac{5\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}}, \quad (18)$$

where  $A_1$  and  $B_1$  are constant. Since  $B$  is very small in comparison with  $A$ , the expression reduces to

$$E = A_1 e^{-\frac{\pi^2 \kappa t}{H^2}}, \quad (19)$$

in a very short time. This equation was used by Weber for testing the accuracy of Fick's law. The values of the constant  $\pi^2 \kappa / H^2$ , after the elapse of 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 days were respectively 0.2032, 0.2066, 0.2045, 0.2027, 0.2027, 0.2049, 0.2049. A very satisfactory result. See also W. Seitz, *Inaugural-Dissertation*, Leipzig, 1897.

II. To find the quantity of salt,  $Q$ , which diffuses through any horizontal section in a given time,  $t$ . Differentiate (7) with respect to  $x$ , multiply the result through with  $\kappa dt$ , so as to obtain  $-\kappa \frac{dV}{dx} dt$ .

If  $x$  represents the height of any given horizontal section, then  $-\kappa q \frac{dV}{dx} dt$  will represent the quantity of salt which passes through this horizontal plane in the time  $dt$ ;  $q$  represents the area of that section. Let the vessel have unit sectional area, then  $q = 1$ .

$$\therefore Q = -\kappa \int_0^t \frac{dV}{dx} dt = \int_0^t \frac{\kappa \pi}{2h} \left\{ a_1 e^{-\left(\frac{\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} \sin \frac{\pi x}{2h} + \dots \right\} dt.$$

Integrate between the limits 0 and  $t$ . The result represents the quantity of salt which passes through any horizontal plane,  $x$ , of the diffusion vessel in the time  $t$ , or,

$$Q = -\kappa \int_0^t \frac{dV}{dx} dt = \frac{2h}{\pi} \left\{ a_1 \left( 1 - e^{-\left(\frac{\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} \right) \sin \frac{\pi x}{2h} + \dots \right\}. \quad (20)$$

III. To find the quantity of salt,  $Q_1$ , which passes out of the diffusion vessel in any given time,  $t$ . Substitute  $h = x$  in (20). The sine of each of the angles  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ ,  $\frac{3}{2}\pi$ , ...,  $\frac{1}{2}(2n+1)\pi$  is equal to unity. Therefore,

$$Q_1 = \frac{2h}{\pi} \left\{ a_1 \left( 1 - e^{-\left(\frac{\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} \right) - \frac{1}{3} a_3 \left( 1 - e^{-\left(\frac{3\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} \right) + \dots \right\}. \quad (21)$$

IV. To find the value of  $\kappa$ , the coefficient of diffusion. Since the members of series (21) converge very rapidly, we may neglect the higher terms of the series. Arrange the experiment so that measurements are made when  $x = h, \frac{1}{3}h, \frac{1}{5}h, \dots$ , in this way  $\sin \pi x/2h, \dots$  in (20) become equal to unity. We thus get a series resembling (21). Substitute for the coefficient and we obtain, by a suitable transposition of terms,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{Q\pi}{2ha_1} &= \left(1 - e^{-\frac{\kappa t \pi^2}{4h^2}}\right); \quad \kappa = \frac{4h^2}{t\pi^2} \log \left(\frac{Q\pi}{2ha_1} - 1\right) \\ a_1 &= \frac{2V_0}{h} \cdot \frac{2h}{\pi} \int_0^h \cos \frac{\pi x}{2h} \cdot d\left(\frac{\pi x}{2h}\right) = \frac{4V_0}{\pi} \\ \therefore \kappa &= \frac{4h^2}{t\pi^2} \log \left(\frac{Q\pi^2}{8hV_0} - 1\right).\end{aligned}\quad (22)$$

There are several other ways of evaluating  $\kappa$  besides this. See page 198, for instance.

V. To find the quantity of salt,  $Q_2$ , which remains in the diffusion vessel after the elapse of a given time,  $t$ . The quantity of salt in the solution at the beginning of the experiment may be represented by the symbol  $Q_0$ .  $Q_0$  may be determined by putting  $t = 0$  in (20) and eliminating  $\sin \pi x/2h, \dots$  as indicated in IV.

$$\begin{aligned}Q_0 &= \frac{2h}{\pi} \left(a_1 - \frac{1}{3}a_3 + \dots\right); \text{ and } Q_2 = Q_0 - Q_1; \\ \therefore Q_2 &= \frac{2h}{\pi} \left(a_1 e^{-\left(\frac{\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} - \frac{1}{3}a_3 e^{-\left(\frac{3\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} + \dots\right).\end{aligned}\quad (23)$$

EXAMPLE.—A solution of salt, having a concentration  $V_0$ , is poured into a tube up to two-thirds of its height, the rest of the tube is filled with pure solvent. Find  $Q_2$ . From (9),

$$a_n = \frac{2V_0}{h} \int_0^{\frac{2}{3}h} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2h} dx = \frac{4V_0}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi}{3},$$

where  $n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$  and  $h$  denotes the height of the tube. Hence

$$a_1 = \frac{4V_0}{\pi} \sin 60^\circ = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\pi} V_0; \quad a_2 = 0; \quad a_3 = -\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3\pi} V_0.$$

From (23), we have

$$Q_2 = \frac{4\sqrt{3}V_0h}{\pi} \left(e^{-\left(\frac{\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} - \frac{1}{9}e^{-\left(\frac{3\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} - \frac{1}{25}e^{-\left(\frac{5\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} + \frac{1}{49}e^{-\left(\frac{7\pi}{2h}\right)^2 \kappa t} + \dots\right)$$

VI. If the diffusion vessel is divided into  $m$  layers, to find the quantity of salt,  $Q_r$ , between the  $(r-1)$ th, and the  $r$ th layer. The quantity of salt in the  $r$ th layer  $dx$  thick is obviously  $dQ_r$ ; and since  $V$  is the concentration of the salt in the plane  $x$  units distant from

the bottom of the diffusion vessel,

$$dQ_r = Vdx; \text{ or } Q_r = \int_{\frac{(r-1)H}{m}}^{\frac{rH}{m}} Vdx. \quad (24)$$

The value of  $V$  given in (10) or (11) is substituted in (24) and the integration performed in the usual way.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Returning to Graham's experiments, Ex. (1), page 486, show that

$$Q_r = \int_{\frac{(r-1)H}{m}}^{\frac{rH}{m}} \left( \frac{V_0}{8} + \frac{2V_0}{\pi n} \sin \frac{n\pi}{8} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{H} e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{H}\right)^2 \kappa t} \right) dx;$$

using both (24) and (15), and neglecting the summation symbol *pro tem*. On integration, therefore

$$Q_r = \frac{V_0 H}{8m} + \frac{2V_0 H}{n^2 \pi^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{8} \left( \sin \frac{n\pi r}{m} - \sin \frac{n\pi(r-1)}{m} \right) e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{H}\right)^2 \kappa t};$$

$$\therefore Q_r = \frac{V_0 H}{8} \left( \frac{1}{m} + \frac{4m}{n^2 \pi^2} \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{8} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2m} \cos \frac{n\pi(2r-1)}{2m} e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{H}\right)^2 \kappa t},$$

from (39), page 612. Restoring the neglected summation symbol, and remembering that in Graham's experiments  $m = 8$ , we have

$$Q_r = \frac{V_0 H}{8} \left( \frac{1}{8} + \frac{32}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot \sin \frac{n\pi}{8} \cdot \sin \frac{n\pi}{16} \cdot \cos \frac{(2r-1)n\pi}{16} e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{H}\right)^2 \kappa t} \right), \quad (25)$$

where  $\frac{1}{8}V_0H$  multiplied by the cross section of the vessel (here supposed unity) denotes the total quantity of salt present in the diffusion vessel. Put  $Q_0 = \frac{1}{8}V_0H$ . Unfortunately, a large number of Graham's experiments are not adapted for numerical discussion, because the shape of his diffusion vessels, even if known, would give very awkward equations. A simple modification in experimental details will often save an enormous amount of labour in the mathematical work. The value of  $Q_r$  depends upon the value of  $\cos \frac{1}{16}n\pi(2r-1)$ . If the diffusion vessel is divided into 8 equal parts—layers— $r$  has the values 1, 2, 3, ... 8. Now set up a table of values of  $\cos \frac{1}{16}n\pi(2r-1)$  for values of  $r$  from 1 to 8; and for values of  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$  We get

$r$ th layer	$n = 1$	$n = 2$	$n = 3$	$n = 4$
$r = 1$	$+\cos \frac{1}{16}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{1}{8}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{3}{16}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{1}{4}\pi$
$r = 2$	$+\cos \frac{3}{16}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{3}{8}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{7}{16}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{1}{2}\pi$
$r = 3$	$+\cos \frac{5}{16}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{5}{8}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{1}{8}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{3}{4}\pi$
$r = 4$	$+\cos \frac{7}{16}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{7}{8}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{5}{8}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{1}{2}\pi$
$r = 5$	$-\cos \frac{9}{16}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{9}{8}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{1}{8}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{3}{4}\pi$
$r = 6$	$-\cos \frac{11}{16}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{11}{8}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{3}{8}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{1}{2}\pi$
$r = 7$	$-\cos \frac{13}{16}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{13}{8}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{7}{8}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{1}{4}\pi$
$r = 8$	$-\cos \frac{15}{16}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{15}{8}\pi$	$-\cos \frac{9}{8}\pi$	$+\cos \frac{1}{4}\pi$

By calculating up corresponding values of  $Q_1, Q_4, Q_5, Q_8$  from (25), and taking their sum it will be found that the first three terms of the trigonometrical





VII. To find the concentration of the dissolved substance in different parts of the diffusion vessel when the stationary state is reached. After the elapse of a sufficient length of time, a state of equilibrium is reached when the concentration of the substance in two parts of the vessel is maintained constant. This occurs if the outer vessel (Fig. 164) is very large, and the liquid at the bottom of the inner vessel is kept saturated by immediate contact with solid salt. In this case,

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = 0; \quad \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = 0.$$

Integrate the latter, and we get

$$V = ax + b, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (32)$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants to be determined from the experimental data, as described in § 108. (32) means that the concentration diminishes from below upwards as the ordinates of a straight line, in agreement with Fick's experiments.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Adapt (38), page 482, to the diffusion of a salt in a funnel-shaped vessel. For a conical vessel,  $q = \pi m^2 x^2$ , where the apex of the cone is at the origin of the coordinate axes,  $m$  is the tangent of half the angle included between the two slant sides of the vessel. Fick has made a series of crude experiments on the steady state in a conical vessel with a circular base (funnel-shaped), and the results were approximately in harmony with the equations

$$\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{2}{x} \cdot \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = 0; \quad \therefore V = C_1 + \frac{C_2}{x}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (33)$$

The apex of the cone was in contact with the reservoir of salt, hence when  $x = 0$ ,  $V = V_0$ , and when  $x = h$ , the height of the cone,  $V = 0$ . This enables  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  to be evaluated. A. Fick, *Pogg. Ann.*, **94**, 59, 1855; or *Phil. Mag.*, [4], **10**, 30, 1855.

(2) An infinitely large piece of pitchblende has two plane faces so arranged that the  $x$ -axis is perpendicular to the faces. Owing to the generation of heat by the internal changes there is a continuous outflow of heat through the faces of the plate. In the steady state, the outflow of heat,  $-k(d^2\theta/ds^2)\delta s$  per sq. cm., is equal to the rate of generation of heat per sq. cm., say to  $q\delta s$ . Hence show  $d^2\theta/ds^2 = -q/k$ . If the slab be 100 cm. thick and the faces be kept at  $0^\circ\text{C}.$ : and if  $q$  be  $\frac{1}{1200000}$ th units, and  $k = 0.005$  (R. J. Strutt, *Nature*, **68**, 6, 1903) show that the temperature in the middle of the slab will be  $\frac{1}{5}^\circ\text{C}.$  hotter than the faces. Hint. First integrate the above equation. The limiting conditions are  $\theta = 0$ , when  $s = 0$ , and when  $s = 100$ .

$$\therefore \theta = -\frac{qs}{2k}(s - 100); \quad \text{and } \theta = \frac{1}{5}, \text{ approximately,}$$

at the middle of the slab where  $s = 50$ .

## § 154. Application to Problems on the Conduction of Heat.

The reader knows that ordinary and partial differential equations differ in this respect: While ordinary differential equations have only a finite number of independent particular integrals, partial differential equations have an infinite number of such integrals. And in practical work we have to pick out one particular integral to satisfy the conditions under which any given experiment is performed. Suppose that a value of  $V$  is required in the equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

such that when  $y = \infty$ ,  $V = 0$ ; and when  $y = 0$ ,  $V = f(x)$ . As on page 484, first assume that

$$V = e^{\alpha y + \beta x},$$

is a solution, when  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are constant. Substitute in (1) and divide by  $e^{\alpha y + \beta x}$ , and

$$\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = 0$$

remains. If this condition holds, the assumed value of  $V$  is a solution of (1). Hence  $V = e^{\alpha y \pm i\alpha x}$ , are also solutions of (1), therefore also  $e^{\alpha y} e^{i\alpha x}$  and  $e^{\alpha y} e^{-i\alpha x}$  are solutions. Add and divide by  $2i$ , or subtract and divide by  $2$ ; from (13) and (15), page 286, it follows that

$$V = e^{\alpha y} \cos \alpha x; \text{ and } V = e^{\alpha y} \sin \alpha x, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

must also be solutions of (1). Multiply the first of equations (2) by  $\cos \alpha \lambda$ , and the second by  $\sin \alpha \lambda$ . The results still satisfy (1). Add, and from (24), page 612,

$$e^{-\alpha y} \cos \alpha(\lambda - x)$$

must also satisfy (1). Multiply by  $f(\lambda) d\lambda$ , and the result is still a solution of (1)

$$e^{-\alpha y} f(\lambda) \cos \alpha(\lambda - x) d\lambda.$$

Multiply by  $1/\pi$  and find the limits when  $\alpha$  has different values between 0 and  $\infty$ . Hence, from (30) and (32), page 479, we have the particular solution satisfying the required conditions

$$V = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\alpha \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-\alpha y} f(\lambda) \cos \alpha(\lambda - x) d\lambda. \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) A large iron plate  $\pi$  cm. thick and at a uniform temperature of  $100^\circ$  is suddenly placed in a bath at zero temperature for 10 seconds. Required the temperature of the middle of the plate at the end of 10 seconds, supposing that the diffusivity  $\kappa$  of the plate is 0.2 C.G.S. units, and that the

surfaces of the plate are kept at zero temperature the whole time. If heat flows perpendicularly to the two faces of the plate, any plane parallel to these faces will have the same temperature. Thus the temperature depends on

$$\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} = \kappa \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial x^2}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

as in (1) page 483. The conditions to be satisfied by the solution are that  $\theta = 100^\circ$ , when  $t = 0$ ;  $\theta = 0$ , when  $x = 0$ ;  $\theta = 0$ , when  $x = \pi$ . First, to get particular solutions. Assume  $\theta = e^{\alpha x + \beta t}$  is a solution, as on page 484. Hence show that

$$\theta = e^{-\kappa \mu^2 t} \cos \mu x, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

$$\theta = e^{-\kappa \mu^2 t} \sin \mu x, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

are solutions of (4). By assigning particular values to  $\mu$ , we shall get particular solutions of (4). Second, to combine these particular solutions so as to get a solution of (4) to satisfy the three conditions, we must observe that (6) is zero when  $x = 0$ , for all values of  $\mu$ , and that (6) is also zero when  $x = \pi$  if  $\mu$  is an integral number. If, therefore, we put  $\theta$  equal to a sum of terms of the form  $Ae^{-\kappa \mu^2 t} \sin nx$ , say,

$$\theta = a_1 e^{-\kappa t} \sin x + a_2 e^{-4\kappa t} \sin 2x + a_3 e^{-9\kappa t} \sin 3x + \dots, \quad . \quad (7)$$

to  $n$  terms, this solution will satisfy the second and third of the above conditions, because  $\sin \pi = 0 = \sin 0$ . When  $t = 0$ , (7) reduces to

$$\theta = a_1 \sin x + a_2 \sin 2x + a_3 \sin 3x + \dots \quad . \quad (8)$$

But for all values of  $x$  between 0 and  $\pi$ , we see from Ex. (1), page 475 that if  $\theta = 100$ , then, from 43,  $a_n = 0$  if  $n$  is even, and  $400/n\pi$ , if  $n$  is odd.

$$\theta = \frac{400}{\pi} \left( \sin x + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3x + \frac{1}{5} \sin 5x + \dots \right). \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

We must substitute the coefficients of this series for  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots$  in (7), to get a solution satisfying *all* the required conditions. Note  $a_2, a_4, \dots$  in (9) are zero. We thus obtain the required solution

$$\theta = \frac{400}{\pi} \left( e^{-\kappa t} \sin x + \frac{1}{3} e^{-9\kappa t} \sin 3x + \dots \right). \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

To introduce the numerical data. When  $x = \frac{1}{2}\pi$ ,  $t = 10$ ,  $\kappa = 0.2$ . Hence use a table of logarithms. The result is accurate to the tenth of a degree if all terms of the series other than the first be suppressed. Hence use

$$\theta = \frac{400}{\pi} e^{-2} \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{400}{\pi} e^{-2}$$

for the numerical calculation. Note  $\sin \frac{1}{2}\pi = 1$ . Ansr.  $17.2^\circ$  C. In the preceding experiment, if the plate is  $c$  centimetres instead of  $\pi$  centimetres thick, use the development

$$\theta = \frac{400}{\pi} \left( \sin \frac{\pi x}{c} + \frac{1}{3} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{c} + \dots \right).$$

from  $x = 0$  to  $x = c$ , in place of (9).

(2) An infinitely large solid with one plane face has a uniform temperature  $f(x)$ . If the plane face is kept at zero temperature, what is the temperature of a point in the solid  $x$  feet from the plane face at the end of  $t$  years? Let the origin of the coordinate axis be in the plane face. We have to

solve equation (4) subject to the conditions  $\theta = 0$ , when  $x = 0$ ;  $\theta = f(x)$ , when  $t = 0$ . Proceed according to the above methods for (5), (6), and (3). We thus obtain

$$\theta = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\alpha \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\kappa\alpha^2 t} f(\lambda) \cos \alpha(\lambda - x) d\lambda; \quad (11)$$

since positive values of  $x$  are wanted we can write, from (33), page 480,

$$\theta = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\alpha \int_0^\infty e^{-\kappa\alpha^2 t} f(\lambda) \sin \alpha x \cdot \sin \alpha \lambda \cdot d\lambda. \quad (12)$$

Hence from (28), page 612, the required solution is

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty f(\lambda) d\lambda \int_0^\infty e^{-\kappa\alpha^2 t} \{\cos \alpha(\lambda - x) - \cos \alpha(\lambda + x)\} d\alpha \\ \therefore \theta &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi\kappa t}} \int_0^\infty f(\lambda) \left\{ e^{-\frac{(\lambda-x)^2}{4\kappa t}} - e^{-\frac{(\lambda+x)^2}{4\kappa t}} \right\} d\lambda. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

This last integration needs amplification. To illustrate the method, let

$$u = \int_0^\infty e^{-a^2 x^2} \cos bx \cdot dx.$$

Laplace (1810) first evaluated the integral on the right by the following ingenious device which has been termed integration by differentiation. Differentiate the given equation and

$$\frac{du}{db} = - \int_0^\infty x e^{-a^2 x^2} \sin bx \cdot dx,$$

provided  $b$  is independent of  $x$ . Now integrate the right member by parts in the usual way, page 205,

$$\therefore \frac{du}{db} = - \frac{b}{2a^2} u; \text{ or } \frac{du}{u} = - \frac{b}{2a^2} db.$$

Integrate, and

$$\log u = - \frac{b^2}{4a^2} + C; \text{ or } u = C e^{-\frac{b^2}{4a^2}}.$$

To evaluate  $C$ , put  $b = 0$ , whence

$$C = u = \int_0^\infty e^{-a^2 x^2} \cdot dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2a},$$

as in (10), page 344. Therefore

$$u = \int_0^\infty e^{-a^2 x^2} \cos bx \cdot dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2a} e^{-\frac{b^2}{4a^2}}.$$

Returning, after this digression, to the original problem. Let us change the variables by substituting in (13),

$$\beta = \frac{\lambda - x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}; \therefore \lambda = x + 2\beta\sqrt{\kappa t}; \therefore d\lambda = 2\sqrt{\kappa t} \cdot d\beta. \quad (14)$$

What will be the effect of substituting these values of  $\lambda$ , and  $d\lambda$  upon the limits of integration? Hitherto this has not been taken into consideration because we have dealt either with indefinite integrals, page 201, or with definite integrals with constant limits, page 240. Here we see at once that if

$$\lambda = 0, \beta = -\frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}; \text{ and if } \lambda = \infty, \beta = +\infty. \quad (15)$$

Consequently, expression (12) assumes the form

$$\theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left\{ \int_{-\frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}}^\infty e^{-\beta^2} f(2\beta\sqrt{\kappa t} + x) d\beta - \int_{+\frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}}^\infty e^{-\beta^2} f(2\beta\sqrt{\kappa t} - x) d\beta \right\}. \quad (16)$$

If the initial temperature be constant, say  $f(x) = \theta_0$ , then, from (4), page 241, the required solution assumes the form

$$\theta = \frac{\theta_0}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left\{ \int_{-\frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}}^{\infty} e^{-\beta^2} d\beta - \int_{+\frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}}^{\infty} e^{-\beta^2} d\beta \right\} = \frac{2\theta_0}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{\frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}} e^{-\beta^2} d\beta. \quad (17)$$

For numerical computation it is necessary to expand the last integral in series as described on page 341. Therefore

$$\theta = \frac{2\theta_0}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left\{ \frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}} - \frac{x^3}{3 \cdot (2\sqrt{\kappa t})^3} + \dots \right\}. \quad (18)$$

If 100 million years ago the earth was a molten mass at  $7,000^\circ \text{F.}$ , and, ever since, the surface had been kept at a constant temperature  $0^\circ \text{F.}$ , what would be the temperature one mile below the surface at the present time, taking Lord Kelvin's value  $\kappa = 400$ ? Ansr.  $104^\circ \text{F.}$  (nearly). Hints.  $\theta_0 = 7,000^\circ$ ;  $x = 5,280 \text{ ft.}$ ;  $t = 100,000,000 \text{ years.}$

$$\therefore \theta = \frac{2 \times 7,000}{\sqrt{3 \cdot 1416}} \left( \frac{5280}{2 \times 20 \times 10,000} \right) = 104.$$

Lord Kelvin, "On the Secular Cooling of the Earth," (W. Thomson and P. G. Tait's *Treatise on Natural Philosophy*, 1, 711, 1867), has compared the observed values of the underground temperature increments,  $d\theta/dx$ , with those deduced by assigning the most probable values to the terms in the above expressions. The close agreement—Calculated:  $1^\circ$  increment per  $\frac{1}{11}$  ft. descent. Observed:  $1^\circ$  increment per  $\frac{1}{8}$  ft. descent—led him to the belief that the data are nearly correct. He extended the calculation in an obvious way and concluded: "I think we may with much probability say that the consolidation cannot have taken place less than 20,000,000 years ago, or we should have more underground heat than we really have, nor more than 400,000,000 years ago, or we should not have so much as the least observed underground increment of temperature". Vide O. Heaviside's *Electromagnetic Theory*, 2, 12, London, 1899. The phenomena associated with "radio-activity" have led us to modify the original assumption as to the nature of the cooling process. See Ex. (2), page 492.

(3) Solve (4) for two very long bars placed end to end in perfect contact, one bar at  $1^\circ \text{C.}$  and the other at  $0^\circ \text{C.}$  under the (imaginary) condition that the two bars neither give nor receive heat from the surrounding air. Let the origin of the axes be at the junction of the two bars, and let the bars lie along the  $x$ -axis. The limiting conditions are: When  $t = 0$ ,  $\theta = 0$ , when  $x$  is less than zero, and  $\theta = f(x) = 1$ , when  $x$  is greater than zero. It is required to find the relation between  $\theta$ ,  $x$ , and  $t$ . Start from Fourier's integral (32), page 479, and proceed to find the condition that  $u$  may be  $f(x)$  when  $t = 0$  by the method employed for (3) above. Change the order of integration, and we obtain

$$\theta = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\lambda) d\lambda \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\kappa \alpha^2 t} \cos \alpha(\lambda - x) d\alpha. \quad (19)$$

Integrate by Laplace's method of differentiation, and

$$\theta = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\lambda) d\lambda \left( \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}} e^{-\frac{(\lambda - x)^2}{4\kappa t}} \right) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi \kappa t}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\lambda) e^{-\frac{(\lambda - x)^2}{4\kappa t}} d\lambda. \quad (20)$$

But if  $\theta = 0$ , when  $t = 0$ , from  $x = -\infty$  to  $x = 0$ ;  $\theta = 1$ , when  $t = 0$ , from  $x = 0$ , to  $x = +\infty$ ; then, since  $f(x) = 1$ ,

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi\kappa t}} \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{(\lambda - x)^2}{4\kappa t}} d\lambda. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (21)$$

Make the substitutions (14) and (15) above, and

$$\theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-\frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}}^{+\infty} e^{-\beta^2} d\beta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left\{ \int_0^{\frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}} e^{-\beta^2} d\beta + \int_0^\infty e^{-\beta^2} d\beta, \right. \quad (22)$$

by (3), page 241. Then, on integration, pages 341 and 463, the required solution is

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left\{ \frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}} - \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}} \right)^3 + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 2!} \left( \frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}} \right)^5 - \dots \right\}. \quad . \quad (23)$$

The process of diffusion of heat here exemplified is quite analogous to the diffusion of a salt from a solution placed in contact with the pure solvent. If  $\kappa$  be determined, it is possible by means of (23), to compute the weight of salt ( $\theta$ ) in unit volume of solution at any time ( $t$ ), and at any distance ( $x$ ) from the junction of the two fluids. When a set of values of  $\theta$ ,  $x$ , and  $t$  are known,  $\kappa$  can be computed from (23). See J. C. Graham, *Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 50, 257 1904, for an example.

## CHAPTER IX.

### PROBABILITY AND THE THEORY OF ERRORS.

“Perfect knowledge alone can give certainty, and in Nature perfect knowledge would be infinite knowledge, which is clearly beyond our capacities. We have, therefore, to content ourselves with partial knowledge—knowledge mingled with ignorance, producing doubt.”—W. STANLEY JEVONS.

“Lorsqu’il n’est pas en notre pouvoir de discerner les plus vraies opinions, nous devons suivre les plus probables.”<sup>1</sup>—RENÉ DESCARTES.

#### § 155. Probability.

NEARLY every inference we make with respect to any future event is more or less doubtful. If the circumstances are favourable, a forecast may be made with a greater degree of confidence than if the conditions are not so disposed. A prediction made in ignorance of the determining conditions is obviously less trustworthy than one based upon a more extensive knowledge. If a sportsman missed his bird more frequently than he hit, we could safely infer that in any future shot he would be more likely to miss than to hit. In the absence of any conventional standard of comparison, we could convey no idea of the degree of the correctness of our judgment. The theory of probability seeks to determine the amount of reason which we may have to expect any event when we have not sufficient data to determine with certainty whether it will occur or not and when the data will admit of the application of mathematical methods.

A great many practical people imagine that the “doctrine of probability” is too conjectural and indeterminate to be worthy of serious study. Liagre<sup>2</sup> very rightly believes that this is due to

---

<sup>1</sup> Translated: “When it is not in our power to determine what is true, we ought to act according to what is most probable”.

<sup>2</sup> J. B. J. Liagre’s *Calcul des Probabilités*, Bruxelles, 1879.

the connotation of the word—probability. The term is so vague that it has undermined, so to speak, that confidence which we usually repose in the deductions of mathematics. So great, indeed, has been the dominion of this word over the mind that all applications of this branch of mathematics are thought to be affected with the unpardonable sin—want of reality. Change the title and the “theory” would not take long to cast off its conjectural character, and to take rank among the most interesting and useful applications of mathematics.

Laplace remarks at the close of his *Essai philosophique sur les Probabilités*, Paris, 1812, “the theory of probabilities is nothing more than common-sense reduced to calculation. It determines with exactness what a well-balanced mind perceives by a kind of instinct, without being aware of the process. By its means nothing is left to chance either in the forming of an opinion, or in the recognizing of the most advantageous view to select when the occasion should arise. It is, therefore, a most valuable supplement to the ignorance and frailty of the human mind. . . .”

*I. If one of two possible events occurs in such a way that one of the events must occur in  $a$  ways, the other in  $b$  ways, the probability that the first will happen is  $a/(a + b)$ , and the probability that the second will happen is  $b/(a + b)$ .* If a rifleman hits the centre of a target about once every twelve shots under fixed conditions of light, wind, quality of powder, etc., we could say that the value of his chance of scoring a “bullseye” in any future shot is 1 in 12, or  $\frac{1}{12}$ , and of missing, 11 in 12, or  $\frac{11}{12}$ . If a more skilful shooter hits the centre about five times every twelve shots, his chance of success in any future shot would be 5 in 12, or  $\frac{5}{12}$ , and of missing  $\frac{7}{12}$ . Expressing this idea in more general language, if an event can happen in  $a$  ways and fail in  $b$  ways, the probability of the event

$$\text{Happening} = \frac{a}{a + b}; \quad \text{Failing} = \frac{b}{a + b}, \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \quad (1)$$

provided that each of these ways is just as likely to happen as to fail. By definition,

$$\text{Probability} = \frac{\text{Number of ways the event occurs}}{\text{Number of possible ways the event may happen}}. \quad (2)$$

EXAMPLE.—If four white, and six black balls are put in a bag, show that the probability that a white ball will be drawn is  $\frac{4}{10}$ , and that a black ball will be drawn  $\frac{6}{10}$ . In betting parlance, the odds are 6 to 4 against white.



II. If  $p$  denotes the probability that an event will happen,  $1 - p$  denotes the probability that the event will fail. The shooter at the target is certain either to hit or to miss. In mathematics, unity is supposed to represent certainty, therefore,

$$\text{Probability of hitting} + \text{Probability of missing} = \text{Certainty} = 1. \quad (3)$$

If the event is certain not to happen the probability of its occurrence is zero. Certainty is the unit of probability. Degrees of probability are fractions of certainty.

Of course the above terms imply no quality of the event in itself, but simply the attitude of the computer's own mind with respect to the occurrence of a doubtful event. We call an event *impossible* when we cannot think of a single cause in favour of its occurrence, and *certain* when we cannot think of a single cause antagonistic to its occurrence. All the different "shades" of probability—improbable, doubtful, probable—lie between these extreme limits.

Strictly speaking, there is no such thing as chance in Nature. The irregular path described by a mote "dancing in a beam of sunlight" is determined as certainly as the orbit of a planet in the heavens.

All nature is but art, unknown to thee;  
All chance, direction thou can'st not see;  
All discord, harmony not understood.

The terms "chance" and "probability" are nothing but conventional modes of expressing our ignorance of the causes of events as indicated by our inability to predict the results. "Pour une intelligence" (omniscient), says Liagre, "tout événement à venir serait *certain* ou *impossible*."

III. The probability that both of two independent events will happen together is the product of their separate probabilities. Let  $p$  denote the probability that one event will happen,  $q$  the probability that another event will happen, the probability,  $P$ , that both events will happen together is

$$P = pq. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

This may be illustrated in the following manner: A vessel  $A$  contains  $a_1$  white balls,  $b_1$  black balls, and a vessel  $B$  contains  $a_2$  white balls and  $b_2$  black balls, the probability of drawing a white ball from  $A$  is  $p_1 = a_1/(a_1 + b_1)$ , and from  $B$ ,  $p_2 = a_2/(a_2 + b_2)$ . The total number of pairs of balls that can be formed from the total number of balls is  $(a_1 + b_1)(a_2 + b_2)$ .



bility that it will happen on the first trial and fail on the succeeding  $n-1$  trials is  $p(1-p)^{n-1}$ , from (4). But the event is just as likely to happen on the 2nd, 3rd... trials as on the first. Hence the probability that the event will happen just once in the  $n$  trials is, from (4), and (10),<sup>1</sup>

$$(p + p + \dots + n \text{ times}) \times (1-p)^{n-1}; \text{ or, } np(1-p)^{n-1}. \quad (12)$$

The probability that the event will occur on the first two trials and fail on the succeeding  $n-2$  trials is  $p^2(1-p)^{n-2}$ . But the event is as likely to occur during the 1st and 3rd, 2nd and 4th, ... trials. Hence the probability that it will occur just twice during the  $n$  trials is

$$\frac{1}{2!}n(n-1)p^2(1-p)^{n-2}. \quad (13)$$

The probability that it will occur  $r$  times in  $n$  trials is, therefore, represented by formula (11).

EXAMPLES.—(1) What is the probability of throwing an ace exactly three times in four trials with a single die? Ansr.  $\frac{5}{32}$ . Hint.  $n=4$ ;  $r=3$ ; there is one chance in six of throwing an ace on a single trial, hence  $p=\frac{1}{6}$ ;  $n-r=1$ ;  $p^r=(\frac{1}{6})^3$ ;  $1-p=\frac{5}{6}$ . Hence,  $\frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3} \times \frac{5}{64}$ .

(2) What is the probability of throwing a deuce exactly three times in three trials? Ansr.  $\frac{1}{27}$ .  $n=3$ ;  $r=3$ ;  $(1-p)^{n-r}=5^0=1$ ;  $p=\frac{1}{6}$ , etc.

VI. If  $p$  denotes the very small probability that an event will happen on a single trial, the probability,  $P$ , that it will happen  $r$  times in a very great number,  $n$ , trials is

$$P = \frac{(np)^r}{r!} e^{-np}. \quad (14)$$

From formula (11), however small  $p$  may be, by increasing the number of trials, we can make the probability that the event will happen at least once in  $n$  trials as great as we please. The probability that the event will fail every time in  $n$  trials is  $(1-p)^n$ , and if  $p$  be made small enough and  $n$  great enough, we can make  $(1-p)^n$  as small as we please.<sup>2</sup> If  $n$  is infinitely great and  $p$  infinitely small, we can write  $n = n-1 = n-2 = \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore (1-p)^n &= 1 - np + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} p^2 - \dots = 1 - np + \frac{(np)^2}{2!} - \dots \text{ (approx.)}; \\ (1-p)^n &= e^{-np} \text{ (approx.)}. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

<sup>1</sup> The student may here find it necessary to read over § 190, page 602.

<sup>2</sup> The reader should test this by substituting small numbers in place of  $p$ , and large ones for  $n$ . Use the binomial formula of § 97, page 282. See the remarks on page 14, § 11.

(14) follows immediately from (11) and (15). This result is very important.

EXAMPLE.—If  $n$  grains of wheat are scattered haphazard over a surface  $s$  units of area, show that the probability that  $a$  units of area will contain  $r$  grains of wheat is

$$\frac{\left(\frac{an}{s}\right)^r}{r!} e^{-\frac{an}{s}}.$$

Thus,  $n \cdot ds/s$  represents the infinitely small probability that the small space  $ds$  contains a grain of wheat. If the selected space be  $a$  units of area, we may suppose each  $ds$  to be a trial, the number of trials will, therefore, be  $a/ds$ . Hence we must substitute  $an/s$  for  $np$  in (14) for the desired result.

VII. The probability,  $P$ , that an event will occur AT LEAST  $r$  times in  $n$  trials is

$$P = p^n + np^{n-1}(1-p) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}p^{n-2}(1-p)^2 + \dots \text{to } (n-r) \text{ terms} \quad (16)$$

For if it occur every time, or fail only once, twice, . . . , or  $n-r$  times, it occurs  $r$  times. The whole probability of its occurring at least  $r$  times is therefore the sum of its occurring every time, of failing only once, twice, . . . ,  $n-r$  times, etc.

EXAMPLE.—What is the probability of throwing a deuce three times at least in four trials? Ansr.  $\frac{7}{16}$ . Here  $p^n = (\frac{1}{4})^4$ ; and the next term of (16) is  $4 \times 5 \times (\frac{1}{4})^4$ .

Sometimes a natural process proves far too complicated to admit of any simplification by means of “working hypotheses”. The question naturally arises, can the observed sequence of events be reasonably attributed to the operation of a law of Nature or to chance? For example, it is observed that the average of a large number of readings of the barometer is greater at nine in the morning than at four in the afternoon; Laplace (*Théorie analytique des Probabilités*, Paris, 49, 1820) asked whether this was to be ascribed to the operation of an unknown law of Nature or to chance? Again, G. Kirchhoff (*Monatsberichte der Berliner Akademie*, Oct., 1859) inquired if the coincidence between 70 spectral lines in iron vapour and in sunlight could reasonably be attributed to chance. He found that the probability of a fortuitous coincidence was approximately as 1 : 1,000000,000000. Hence, he argued that there can be no reasonable doubt of the existence of iron in the sun. Mitchell (*Phil. Trans.*, 57, 243, 1767; see also Kleiber, *Phil. Mag.*, [5], 24, 439, 1887) has endeavoured to calculate if the number of star clusters is greater than what would be expected if the stars had been distributed haphazard over the heavens. A. Schuster (*Proc. Roy.*

*Soc.*, 31, 337, 1881) has tried to answer the question, Is the number of harmonic relations in the spectral lines of iron greater than what a chance distribution would give? Mallet (*Phil. Trans.*, 171, 1003, 1880) and R. J. Strutt (*Phil. Mag.*, [6], 1, 311, 1901) have asked, Do the atomic weights of the elements approximate as closely to whole numbers as can reasonably be accounted for by an accidental coincidence? In other words: Are there common-sense grounds for believing the truth of Prout's law, that "the atomic weights of the other elements are exact multiples of that of hydrogen"?

The theory of probability does not pretend to furnish an infallible criterion for the discrimination of an accidental coincidence from the result of a determining cause. Certain conditions must be satisfied before any reliance can be placed upon its dictum. For example, a sufficiently large number of cases must be available. Moreover, the theory is applied irrespective of any knowledge to be derived from other sources which may or may not furnish corroborative evidence. Thus Kirchhoff's conclusion as to the probable existence of iron in the sun was considerably strengthened by the apparent relation between the brightness of the coincident lines in the two spectra.

For details of the calculations, the reader must consult the original memoirs. Most of the calculations are based upon the analysis in Laplace's old but standard *Théorie* (*l.c.*). An excellent *résumé* of this latter work will be found in the *Encyclopædia Metropolitana*. The more fruitful applications of the theory of probability to natural processes have been in connection with the kinetic theory of gases and the "law" relating to errors of observation.

### § 156. Application to the Kinetic Theory of Gases.

The purpose of the kinetic theory of gases is to explain the physical properties of gases from the hypothesis that a gas consists of a great number of molecules in rapid motion. The following illustrations are based, in the first instance, on a memoir by R. Clausius (*Phil. Mag.*, [4], 17, 81, 1859). For further developments, O. E. Meyer's *The Kinetic Theory of Gases*, London, 1899, may be consulted.

*I. To show that the probability that a single molecule, moving in a swarm of molecules at rest, will traverse a distance  $x$  without collision is*



section through the centre of a sphere of radius  $\rho$ , is  $\pi\rho^2$ , (13), page 604. If the moving molecule travels a distance  $\lambda$ , the hemispherical anterior surface of the molecule passes through a cylindrical space of volume  $\pi\rho^2\lambda$  (26), page 605. Therefore, the probability that there is a molecule in the cylinder  $\pi\rho^2\lambda$  is to 1 as  $\pi\rho^2\lambda$  is to  $\lambda^3$ , that is to say, the probability that the molecule under consideration will collide with another as it passes over a path of length  $\lambda$ , is  $\pi\rho^2\lambda : \lambda^3$ . The probability that there will be no collision is  $1 - \frac{\pi\rho^2}{\lambda^2}$ . From (17),

$$P = e^{-\frac{\lambda}{l}} = 1 - \frac{\rho^2\pi}{\lambda^2}. \quad (20)$$

According to the kinetic theory, one fundamental property of gases is that the intermolecular spaces are very great in comparison with the dimensions of the molecules, and, therefore,  $\rho^2\pi/\lambda^2$  is very small in comparison with unity. Hence also  $\lambda/l$  is a small magnitude in comparison with unity. Expand  $e^{-\lambda/l}$  according to the exponential theorem (page 285), neglect terms involving the higher powers of  $\lambda$ , and

$$e^{-\frac{\lambda}{l}} = 1 - \frac{\lambda}{l}, \quad (21)$$

From (20) and (21),

$$l = \frac{\lambda^3}{\rho^2\pi}; \text{ or, } P = e^{-\frac{\rho^2\pi x}{\lambda^3}}. \quad (22)$$

EXAMPLE.—The behaviour of gases under pressure indicates that  $\rho$  is very much smaller than  $\lambda$ . Hence show that “a molecule passes by many other molecules like itself before it collides with another”. Hint. From the first of equations (22),  $l : \lambda = \lambda^2 : \rho^2\pi$ . Interpret the symbols.

III. To show that the mean value of the free path of  $n$  molecules moving under the same conditions as the solitary molecule just considered, is

$$^nl = \frac{\lambda^3}{\rho^2\pi}. \quad (23)$$

Out of  $n$  molecules which travel with the same velocity in the same direction as the given molecule,  $ne^{-x/l}$  will travel the distance  $x$  without collision, and  $ne^{-(x+dx)/l}$  will travel the distance  $x + dx$  without collision. Of the molecules which traverse the path  $x$ ,

$$n\left(e^{-\frac{x}{l}} - e^{-\frac{x+dx}{l}}\right) = ne^{-\frac{x}{l}}\left(1 - e^{-\frac{dx}{l}}\right) = \frac{n}{l}e^{-\frac{x}{l}}dx,$$

of them will undergo collision in passing over the distance  $dx$ . The last transformation follows directly from (21). The sum of

all the paths traversed by the molecules passing  $x$  and  $x + dx$  is

$$\frac{x}{l} n e^{-\frac{x}{l}} dx.$$

Since each molecule must collide somewhere in passing between the limits  $x = 0$  and  $x = \infty$ , the sum of all the possible paths traversed by the  $n$  molecules before collision is

$$n \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x}{l} e^{-\frac{x}{l}} dx,$$

and the mean value of these  $n$  free paths is

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x}{l} e^{-\frac{x}{l}} dx = l.$$

Integrate the indefinite integral as indicated on page 205. From (4) we get (23). This represents the mean free path of these molecules moving with a uniform velocity.

EXAMPLES.—(1) A molecule moving with a velocity  $V$  enters a space filled with  $n$  stationary molecules of a gas per unit volume, what is the probability that this molecule will collide with one of those at rest in unit time? Use the above notation. The molecule travels the space  $V$  in unit time. In doing this, it meets with  $\pi n \rho^2 V$  molecules at rest. The probable number of collisions in unit time is, therefore,  $\pi n \rho^2 V$ , which represents the probability of a collision in unit time.

(2) Show that the probable number of collisions made in unit time by a molecule travelling with a uniform velocity  $V$ , in a swarm of  $N$  molecules at rest, is

$$\frac{V}{l} = \frac{V \rho^2 \pi}{\lambda^3}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (24)$$

What is the relation between this and the preceding result? Note the number of collisions  $= V/l$ ; and  $N \lambda^3 = 1$ .

IV. *The number of collisions made in unit time by a molecule moving with uniform velocity in a direction which makes an angle  $\theta$  with the direction of motion of a swarm of molecules also moving with the same uniform velocity is probably*

$$\frac{\rho^2 \pi}{\lambda^3} 2v \sin \frac{1}{2} \theta. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (25)$$

Let  $v$  be the resultant velocity of one molecule, and  $x_1, y_1, z_1$  the three component velocities, then, from the parallelopiped of velocities, page 125,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} v^2 &= x_1^2 + y_1^2 + z_1^2 \\ x_1 &= v \cos \theta_1; y_1 = v \sin \theta_1 \cdot \cos \phi_1; z_1 = v \sin \theta_1 \cdot \sin \phi_1 \end{aligned} \right\}. \quad (26)$$

If one set of molecules moves with a uniform velocity,  $v$ , whose components are  $x, y, z$ , relative to the given molecule moving with



the same uniform velocity,  $v$ , whose components are  $x_1, y_1, z_1$ , then,

$$v^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2; \quad (27)$$

$$x = v \cos \theta; \quad y = v \sin \theta \cdot \cos \phi; \quad z = v \sin \theta \cdot \sin \phi, \quad (28)$$

and the relative resultant velocity,  $v$ , of one molecule with respect to the other considered at rest, is

$$V = \sqrt{(x_1 - x)^2 + (y_1 - y)^2 + (z_1 - z)^2}. \quad (29)$$

If we choose the three coordinate axes so that the  $x$ -axis coincides with the direction of motion of the given molecule, we may substitute these values in (26), remembering that  $\cos 0^\circ = 1$ ,  $\sin 0^\circ = 0$ ,

$$y_1 = 0; \quad z_1 = 0; \quad \therefore x_1 = v. \quad (30)$$

Substitute (30) and (26) in (29), we get

$$V = \sqrt{(v - v \cos \theta)^2 + v^2 \sin^2 \theta \cdot \cos^2 \phi + v^2 \sin^2 \theta \cdot \sin^2 \phi};$$

$$\therefore V = \sqrt{v^2 - 2v^2 \cos \theta + v^2 \cos^2 \theta + v^2 \sin^2 \theta},$$

since  $\sin^2 \phi + \cos^2 \phi = 1$ . Similarly,  $\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$ , and consequently

$$V = v \sqrt{2 - 2 \cos \theta} = v \sqrt{2(1 - \cos \theta)}.$$

But we know, page 612, that  $1 - \cos x = 2(\sin \frac{1}{2}x)^2$ , hence,

$$V = 2v \sin \frac{1}{2}\theta. \quad (31)$$

Having found the relative velocity of the molecules, it follows directly from (24) and (31), that

$$\text{Number of collisions} = \frac{V \rho^2 \pi}{\lambda^3} = \frac{\rho^2 \pi}{\lambda^3} 2v \sin \frac{1}{2}\theta.$$

*V. The number of collisions encountered in unit time by a molecule moving in a swarm of molecules in all directions, is*

$$\frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{V \rho^2 \pi}{\lambda^3}. \quad (32)$$

Let  $V$  denote the velocity of the molecules, then the different motions can be resolved into three groups of motions according to the parallelopiped of velocities. Proceed as in the last illustration. The number of molecules,  $n$ , moving in a direction between  $\theta$  and  $\theta + d\theta$  is to the total number of molecules,  $N$ , in unit volume as

$$n : N = 2\pi \sin \theta d\theta : 4\pi; \text{ or, } n = \frac{1}{2}N \sin \theta d\theta. \quad (33)$$

Since the angle  $\theta$  can increase from  $0^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$ , the total number of collisions is

$$\frac{V \rho^2 \pi}{\lambda^3} \cdot \frac{n}{N} = \frac{V \rho^2 \pi}{\lambda^3} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sin \theta d\theta.$$

To get the total number of collisions, it only remains to integrate for all directions of motion between  $0^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$ . Thus if  $A$  denotes the number of collisions,

$$A = \frac{V\rho^2\pi}{\lambda^3} \int_0^\pi \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \cdot \sin \theta d\theta = \frac{2V\rho^2\pi}{\lambda^3} \int_0^\pi \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \cdot \cos \frac{\theta}{2} d\theta = \frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{V\rho^2\pi}{\lambda^3},$$

by the method of integration on page 212.

EXAMPLE.—Find the length of the free path of a molecule moving in a swarm of molecules moving in all directions, with a velocity  $V$ . Ansr.

$$\text{Length of free path} = V/A = \frac{3}{4}\lambda^3/\rho^2\pi. \quad (34)$$

For the hypothesis of uniform velocity see § 164, page 534.

VI. Assuming that two unlike molecules combine during a collision, the velocity of chemical reaction between two gases is

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = kNN', \quad (35)$$

where  $N$  and  $N'$  are the number of molecules of each of the two gases respectively contained in unit volume of the mixed gases,  $dx$  denotes the number of molecules of one gas in unit volume which combines with the other in the time  $dt$ ;  $k$  is a constant. Let the two gases be A and B. Let  $\lambda$  and  $\lambda'$  respectively denote the distances between two neighbouring molecules of the same kind, then, as above,

$$N\lambda^3 = N'\lambda'^3 = 1. \quad (36)$$

Let  $\rho$  be the radius of the sphere of action, and suppose the molecules combine when the sphere of action of the two kinds of molecules approaches within  $2\rho$ , it is required to find the rate of combination of the two gases. The probability that a B molecule will come within the sphere of action of an A molecule in unit time is  $V\pi\rho^2/\lambda^3$ , by (24). Among the  $N'$  molecules of B,

$$N' \frac{\pi\rho^2}{\lambda^3} V dt; \text{ or, } NN'\pi\rho^2 V dt, \quad (37)$$

by (36), combine in the time  $dt$ . But the number of molecules which combine in the time  $dt$  is  $-dN = -dN'$ , or, from (37),

$$dN = dN' = -NN'\pi\rho^2 V dt.$$

If  $dx$  represents the number of molecules in unit volume which combines in the time  $dt$ ,

$$dx = dN = dN' = \pi\rho^2 V NN' dt. \quad \therefore \frac{dx}{dt} = kNN',$$

by collecting together all the constants under the symbol  $k$ . This will be at once recognized as the law of mass action applied to bimolecular reactions. J. J. Thomson's memoir, "The Chemical Combination of Gases," *Phil. Mag.*, [5], 18, 233, 1884, might now be read by the chemical student with profit.

### § 157. Errors of Observation.

If a number of experienced observers agreed to test, independently, the accuracy of the mark etched round the neck of a litre flask with the greatest precision possible, the inevitable result would be that every measurement would be different. Thus, we might expect

1.0003 ; 0.9991 ; 1.0007 ; 1.0002 ; 1.0001 ; 0.9998 ; ...

Exactly the same thing would occur if one observer, taking every known precaution to eliminate error, repeats a measurement a great number of times. The discrepancies doubtless arise from various unknown and therefore uncontrolled sources of error.

We are told that sodium chloride crystallizes in the form of cubes, and that the angle between two adjoining faces of a crystal is, in consequence,  $90^\circ$ . As a matter of fact the angle, as measured, varies within  $0.5^\circ$  either way. No one has yet exactly verified the Gay Lussac-Humboldt law of the combination of gases ; nor has any one yet separated hydrogen and oxygen from water, by electrolysis, in the proportions required by the ratio,  $2\text{H}_2 : \text{O}_2$ .

The irregular deviations of the measurements from, say, the arithmetical mean of all are called **accidental errors**. In the following discussion we shall call them "errors of observation" unless otherwise stated. These deviations become more pronounced the nearer the approach to the limits of accurate measurement. Or, as Lamb<sup>1</sup> puts it, "the more refined the methods employed the more vague and elusive does the supposed magnitude become ; the judgment flickers and wavers, until at last in a sort of despair *some* result is put down, not in the belief that it is exact, but with the feeling that it is the best we can make of the matter". It is the object of the remainder of this chapter to find what is the best we can make of a set of discordant measurements.

The simplest as well as the most complex measurements are invariably accompanied by these fortuitous errors. Absolute agreement is itself an accidental coincidence. Stanley Jevons says, "it is one of the most embarrassing things we can meet when experimental results agree too closely". Such agreement should at once excite a feeling of distrust.

---

<sup>1</sup> H. Lamb, Presidential Address, B.A. meeting, 1904 ; *Nature*, 70, 372, 1904.

The observed relations between two variables, therefore, should not be represented by a point in space, rather by a circle around whose centre the different observations will be grouped (Fig. 165). Any particular observation will find a place somewhere within the circumference of the circle. The diagram (Fig. 165) suggests our old illustration, a rifleman aiming at the centre of a target. The rifleman may be likened to an observer; the place where the bullet hits, to an observation; the distance between the centre and the place where the bullet hits the target resembles an error of observation. A shot at the centre of the target is thus an attempt to hit the centre, a scientific measurement is an attempt to hit the true value of the magnitude measured (Maxwell).

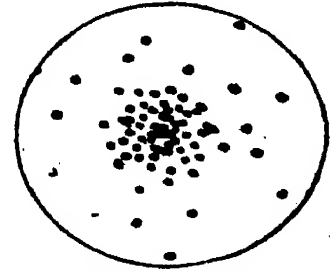


FIG. 165.

The greater the radius of the circle (Fig. 165), the cruder and less accurate the measurements; and, *vice versa*, the less the measurements are affected by errors of observation, the smaller will be the radius of the circle. In other words, the less the skill of the shooter, the larger will be the target required to record his attempts to hit the centre.

### § 158. The "Law" of Errors.

These errors may be represented pictorially another way. Draw a vertical line through the centre of the target (Fig. 165) and let the hits to the right of this line represent positive errors and those to the left negative errors. Suppose that 500 shots are fired in a competition; of these, ten on the right side were between 0.4 and 0.5 feet from the centre of the target; twenty shots between 0.3 and 0.4 feet away; and so on, as indicated in the following table.

Positive Deviations from Mean between	Number of Errors.	Percentage Number of Errors.	Negative Deviations from Mean between	Number of Errors.	Percentage Number of Errors.
0.4 and 0.5	10	2	0.4 and 0.5	10	2
0.3 and 0.4	20	4	0.3 and 0.4	20	4
0.2 and 0.3	40	8	0.2 and 0.3	40	8
0.1 and 0.2	80	16	0.1 and 0.2	80	16
0.0 and 0.1	100	20	0.0 and 0.1	100	20

Plot, as ordinates, the numbers in the third column with the means of the two corresponding limits in the first column as abscissæ. The curve shown in Fig. 166 will be the result.

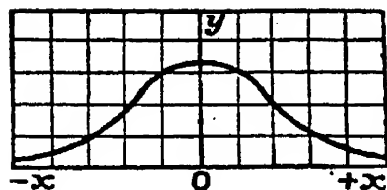


FIG. 166.—Probability Curve.

By a study of the last two diagrams, we shall find that there is a regularity in the grouping of these irregular errors which, as a matter of fact, becomes more pronounced the greater the number of trials

we take into consideration. Thus, it is found that—

1. Small errors are more frequent than large ones.
2. Positive errors are as frequent as negative errors.
3. Very large positive or negative errors do not occur.

Any mathematical relation between an error,  $x$ , and the frequency, or rather the probability, of its occurrence,  $y$ , must satisfy these characteristics. When such a function,

$$y = f(x),$$

is plotted, it must have a maximum ordinate corresponding with no error; it must be symmetrical with respect to the  $y$ -axis, in order to satisfy the second condition; and as  $x$  increases numerically,  $y$  must decrease until, when  $x$  becomes very large,  $y$  must become vanishingly small. Such is the curve represented by the equation,

$$y = ke^{-h^2x^2}, \quad (1)$$

where  $h$  and  $k$  are constants.<sup>1</sup> The graph of this equation, called the **probability curve**, or curve of frequency, or curve of errors, is obtained by assigning arbitrary constant values to  $h$  and  $k$  and plotting a set of corresponding values of  $x$  and  $y$  in the usual way.<sup>2</sup>

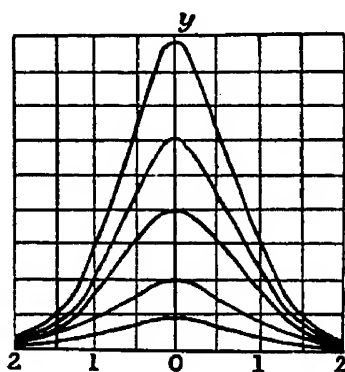


FIG. 167.—Probability Curves ( $h$  constant,  $k$  variable).

*I. To find a meaning for the constant  $k$ .* Put  $x = 0$ , then  $y = k$ , that is the maximum ordinate of the curve. Now put  $h = 1$ , and make  $k$  successively  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 3, 4. Plot corresponding values of  $x$  and  $y$ , as shown in Fig. 167. Another plan is "to bend a loop of wire into the form of one of the curves, and to place a lamp behind it so as to throw the shadow upon the screen. The loop and lamp might be easily made to move in such

<sup>1</sup> Use Table XVII., page 626.

<sup>2</sup> E. B. Sargant, "The Education of Examiners," *Nature*, 70, 63, 1904.

a manner that the shadows in the successive positions gave the whole series of curves." If we agree to define an error as the deviation of each measurement from the arithmetical mean,  $k$  corresponds with those measurements which coincide with the mean itself, or are affected by no error at all. The height at which the curve cuts the  $y$ -axis represents the frequency of occurrence of the arithmetical mean;  $k$  has nothing to do with the actual shape of the curve beyond increasing the length of the maximum ordinate as the accuracy of the observations increases.

II. To find a meaning for the constant  $h$ . Put  $k = 1$ , and plot corresponding values of  $x$  and  $y$  for  $x = \pm 0.3, \pm 0.4, \pm 0.5, \pm 0.6, \dots$  when  $h = \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , as shown in Fig. 168. In this way, it will be observed that although all the curves cut the  $y$ -axis at

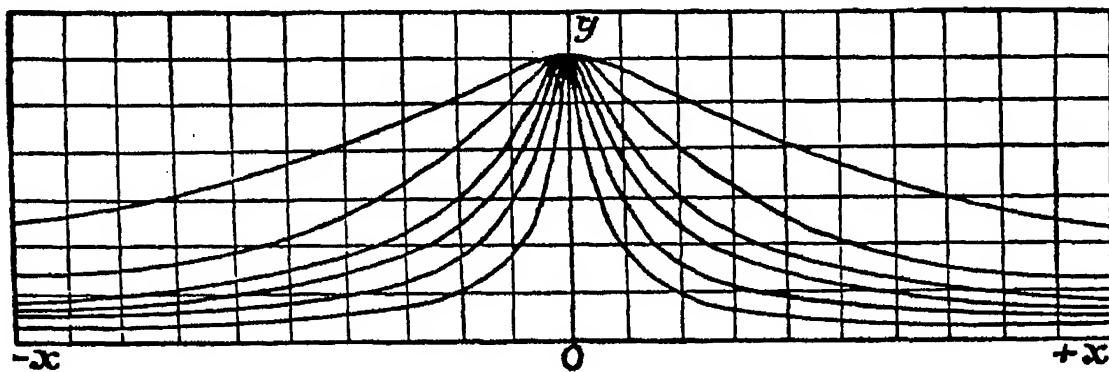


FIG. 168.—Probability Curves ( $k$  constant,  $h$  variable).

the same point, the greater the value of  $h$ , the steeper will be the curve in the neighbourhood of the central ordinate  $Oy$ . The physical signification of this is that the greater the magnitude of  $h$ , the more accurate the results and the less will be the magnitude of the deviation of individual measurements from the arithmetical mean of the whole set. Hence Gauss calls  $h$  the **absolute measure or modulus of precision**.

III. When  $h$  and  $k$  both vary, we get the set of curves shown on Fig. 169.

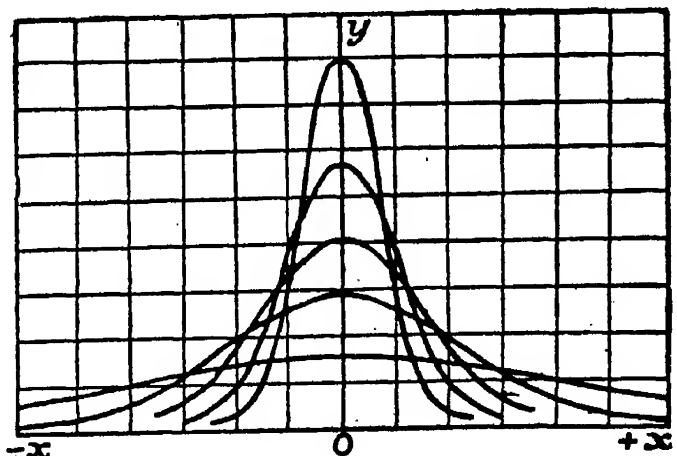


FIG. 169.—Probability Curves ( $h$  and  $k$  both variable).

A good shot will get a curve enclosing a very much smaller area than one whose shooting is wild.

We must now submit our empirical "law" to the test of experiment. Bessel has compared the errors of observation in 470 astronomical measurements made by Bradley with those which should occur according to the law of errors. The results of this comparison are shown in the following table:—<sup>1</sup>

Magnitude of Error in Parts of a Second of Arc, between:	Number of Errors of each Magnitude.	
	Observed.	Theory.
0 and 0.1	94	95
0.1 and 0.2	88	89
0.2 and 0.3	78	78
0.3 and 0.4	58	64
0.4 and 0.5	51	50
0.5 and 0.6	36	36
0.6 and 0.7	26	24
0.7 and 0.8	14	15
0.8 and 0.9	10	9
0.9 and 1.0	7	5
above 1.0	8	5

This is a remarkable verification of the above formula. The theory, be it observed, provides for errors of *any* magnitude, however large; in practice, there is a limit above which no error will be found to occur. The dots in Fig. 170 represent the "observed errors" in some determinations of the velocity of light. The graph, plotted from the error curve

$$y = 8.9e^{-0.025x^2},$$

as you can see, is almost a faithful representation of the actual errors. Airy and Newcomb have also shown that the number and magnitude of the errors affecting extended series of observations are in fair accord with theory. But in every case, the number of large errors actually found is in *excess* of theory. To quote an instance. S. Newcomb examined 684 ob-

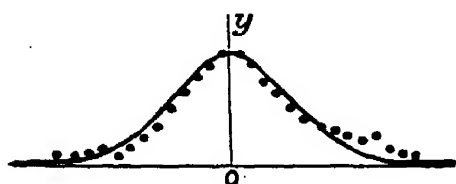


FIG. 170.

<sup>1</sup> Taken from Encke's paper in the *Berliner Astronomisches Jahrbuch*, 249, 1834; or, Taylor's *Scientific Memoirs*, 2, 317, 1841.

servations of the transit of Mercury. According to the "law" of errors, there should be 5 errors numerically greater than  $\pm 27''$ . In reality 49 surpassed these limits. You can also notice how the "big" errors accumulate at the ends of the frequency curve in Fig. 170.

The theory assumes that the observations are all liable to the same errors, but differ in the accidental circumstances which give rise to the errors.<sup>1</sup> Equation (1) is by no means a perfect representation of the law of errors. The truth is more complex. The magnitude of the errors seems to depend, in some curious way, upon the number of observations. In an extended series of observations the errors may be arranged in groups. Each group has a different modulus of precision. This means that the modulus of precision is not constant throughout an extended series of observations. See *Encyc. Brit.*, F. Y. Edgeworth's art. "Law of Error," 28, 280, 1902. But the probability curve represented by the formula

$$y = ke^{-\lambda^2 x^2},$$

may be considered a very fair graphic representation of the law connecting the probability of the occurrence of an error with its magnitude. All our subsequent work is based upon this empirical law! J. Venn in his *Logic of Chance*, 1896, calls the "exponential law of errors," a *law*, because it expresses a physical fact relating to the frequency with which errors are found to present themselves in practice; while the "method of least squares" is a *rule* showing how the best representative value may be extracted from a set of experimental results. H. Poincaré, in the preface to his *Thermodynamique*, Paris, 1892, quotes the laconic remark, "everybody firmly believes in it (the law of errors), because mathematicians imagine that it is a fact of observation, and observers that it is a theorem of mathematics".

Adrian (1808) appears to have been the first to try to deduce the above formula on theoretical grounds. Several attempts have since been made, notably by Gauss, Hagen, Herschel, Laplace, etc., but I believe without success.

---

<sup>1</sup> Some observers' results seem more liable to these large errors than others, due, perhaps, to carelessness, or lapses of attention. Thomson and Tait, I presume, would call the abnormally large errors "avoidable mistakes".



### § 159. The Probability Integral.

Let  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x$  be a series of errors in ascending order of magnitude from  $x_0$  to  $x$ . Let the differences between the successive values of  $x$  be equal. If  $x$  is an error, the probability of committing an error between  $x_0$  and  $x$  is the sum of the separate probabilities  $ke^{-h^2x_0^2}, ke^{-h^2x_1^2}, \dots$ , (10), page 501, or

$$P = k(e^{-h^2x_0^2} + e^{-h^2x_1^2} + \dots) = k \sum_{x_0}^x e^{-h^2x^2}. \quad (1)$$

If the summation sign is replaced by that of integration, we must let  $dx$  denote the successive intervals between any two limits  $x_0$  and  $x$ , thus

$$P = \frac{k}{dx} \int_{x_0}^x e^{-h^2x^2} dx.$$

Now it is certain that all the errors are included between the limits  $\pm \infty$ , and, since certainty is represented by unity, we have

$$1 = \frac{k}{dx} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-h^2x^2} dx = \frac{k}{dx} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{h}, \quad (2)$$

from page 345. Or,

$$k = \frac{h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot dx. \quad (3)$$

Substituting this value of  $k$  in the probability equation (1), preceding section, we get the same relation expressed in another form, namely,

$$\frac{h}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-h^2x^2} dx, \quad (4)$$

a result which represents the probability of errors of observation between the magnitudes  $x$  and  $x + dx$ . By this is meant the ratio :

$$\frac{\text{Number of errors between } x \text{ and } x + dx}{\text{Total number of errors}}.$$

The symbols  $y$  and  $P$  are convenient abbreviations for this cumbrous phrase. For a large number of observations affected with accidental errors, the probability of an error of observation having a magnitude  $x$ , is,

$$y = \frac{h}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-h^2x^2} dx, \quad (5)$$

which is known as **Gauss' law of errors**. This result has the same meaning as  $y = ke^{-h^2x^2}$  of the preceding section. In (4)  $dx$  represents the interval, for any special case, between the successive values of  $x$ . For example, if a substance is weighed to the thousandth of a gram,  $dx = 0.001$ ; if in hundredths,  $dx = 0.01$ ,

etc. The probability that there will be no error is

$$\frac{h \cdot dx}{\sqrt{\pi}}; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

the probability that there will be no errors of the magnitude of a milligram is

$$\frac{0.001h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

The probability that an error will lie between any two limits  $x_0$  and  $x$  is

$$P = \frac{h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{x_0}^x e^{-h^2 x^2} dx. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

The probability that an error will lie between the limits 0 and  $x$  is

$$P = \frac{2h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-h^2 x^2} dx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

which expresses the probability that an error will be numerically less than  $x$ . We may also put

$$P = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{hx} e^{-h^2 x^2} d(hx), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

which is another way of writing the probability integral (8). In (8), the limits  $x_0$  and  $x$ ; and in (9) and (10),  $\pm x$ . By differentiation and the usual method for obtaining a minimum value of any function, we find, from (1), that  $y$ , in  $y = ke^{-h^2 x^2}$ , is a minimum when

$$x^2 = \frac{1}{2h^2}; \quad \therefore x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2 = \Sigma \frac{1}{2h^2}.$$

But we have seen that the more accurate the observations the greater the value of  $h$ . The greater the value of  $h$ , the smaller the value of  $\Sigma(x^2)$ ;  $\Sigma(x^2)$  is a minimum when  $h$  is a maximum. This is nothing but **Legendre's principle of least squares**: *The most probable value for the observed quantities is that for which the sum of the squares of the individual errors is a minimum.* That is to say, when

$$x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2 = \text{A MINIMUM}, \quad . \quad (11)$$

where  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , represents the errors respectively affecting the first, second, and the  $n$ th observations.

To illustrate the reasonableness of the principle of least squares we may revert to an old regulation of the Belgian army in which the individual scores of the riflemen were formed by adding up the distances of each man's shots from the centre of the target. The

smallest sum won "le grand prix" of the regiment. It is not difficult to see that this rule is faulty. Suppose that one shooter scored a 1 and a 3; another shooter two 2's. It is obvious that the latter score shows better shooting than the former. The shots may deviate in any direction without affecting the score. Consequently, the magnitude of each deviation is proportional, not to the magnitude of the *straight line* drawn from the place where the bullet hits to the centre of the target, but to the *area* of the circle described about the centre of the target with that line as radius. This means that it would be better to give the grand prize to the score which had a minimum sum of the *squares* of the distances of the shots from the centre of the target.<sup>1</sup> This is nothing but a graphic representation of the principle of least squares, formula (11). In this way, the two shooters quoted above would respectively score a 10 and an 8.

### § 160. The Best Representative Value for a Set of Observations.

It is practically useless to define an error as the deviation of any measurement from the true result, because that definition would imply a knowledge which is the object of investigation. What then is an error? Before we can answer this question, we must determine the most probable value of the quantity measured. The only available data, as we have just seen, are always associated with the inevitable errors of observation. The measurements, in consequence, all disagree among themselves within certain limits. In spite of this fact, the investigator is called upon to state *definitely* what he considers to be the most probable value of the magnitude under investigation. Indeed, *every chemical or physical constant in our text-books is the best representative value of a more or less extended series of discordant observations*. For instance, giant attempts have been made to find the exact length of a column of pure mercury of one square millimetre cross-sectional area which has a resistance of one ohm at 0° C. The following numbers have been obtained :

106.33 ;	106.31 ;	106.24 ;
106.32 ;	106.29 ;	106.21 ;
106.32 ;	106.27 ;	106.19,

---

<sup>1</sup> See properties of similar figures, page 603.

centimetres (J. D. Everett's *Illustrations of the C.G.S. System of Units*, London, 176, 1891). There is no doubt that the true value of the required constant lies somewhere between 106·19 and 106·33; but no reason is apparent why one particular value should be chosen in preference to another. The physicist, however, must select *one* number from the infinite number of possible values between the limits 106·19 and 106·33 cm.

*I. What is the best representative value of a set of discordant results?* The arithmetical mean naturally suggests itself, and some mathematicians start from the axiom: "the arithmetical mean is the best representative value of a series of discrepant observations". Various attempts, based upon the law of errors, have been made to show that the arithmetical mean is the best representative value of a number of observations made under the same conditions and all equally trustworthy. The proof rests upon the fact that the positive and negative deviations, being equally probable, will ultimately balance each other as shown in Ex. (1), below.<sup>1</sup>

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are a series of observations,  $a$  their arithmetical mean, show that the algebraic sum of the residual errors is

$$(a_1 - a) + (a_2 - a) + \dots + (a_n - a) = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

Hint. By definition of arithmetical mean,

$$a = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n}; \text{ or, } na = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n.$$

Distribute the  $n$   $a$ 's on the right-hand side so as to get (1), etc.

(2) Prove that the arithmetical mean makes the sum of the squares of the errors a minimum. Hint. See page 550.

*En passant*, notice that in calculating the mean of a number of observations which agree to a certain number of digits, it is not necessary to perform the whole of the addition. For example, the mean of the above nine measurements is written

$$106 + \frac{1}{9}(\cdot 33 + \cdot 32 + \cdot 32 + \cdot 31 + \cdot 29 + \cdot 27 + \cdot 24 + \cdot 21 + \cdot 19) = 106\cdot 276.$$

*II. The best representative value of a constant interval.* When

<sup>1</sup> G. Hinrichs, in his *The Absolute Atomic Weights of the Chemical Elements*, criticizes the selection (and the selectors) of the arithmetical mean as the best representative value of a set of discordant observations. He asks: "If we cannot use the arithmetical mean of a large number of simple weighings of actual shillings as the true value of a (new) shilling, how dare we assume that the mean value of a few determinations of the atomic weight of a chemical element will give us its true value?" But there seems to be a misunderstanding somewhere. F. Y. Edgeworth has "The Choice of Means," *Phil. Mag.*, [5], 24, 268, 1887, and several articles on related subjects in the same journal between 1883 and 1889.

the best representative value of a constant interval  $x$  in the expression  $x_n = x_0 + nx$  (where  $n$  is a positive integer 1, 2...), is to be determined from a series of measurements  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$ , such that

$$x_1 = x_0 + x; x_2 = x_0 + 2x; \dots x_n = x_0 + nx,$$

where  $x_0$  denotes the first observation,  $x_1$  the second reading when  $n = 1$ ;  $x_2$ , the third reading when  $n = 2$ ; ... The best value for the constant interval  $x$  has to be computed. Obviously,

$$x = x_1 - x_0; x = x_2 - x_1; \dots x = x_n - x_{n-1}.$$

The arithmetical mean cannot be employed because it reduces to

$$x = \frac{x_n - x_0}{n}$$

the same as if the first and last term had alone been measured. In such cases it is usual to refer the results to the expression

$$x = 6 \frac{(n-1)(x_n - x_1) + (n-3)(x_{n-1} - x_2) + \dots}{n(n^2 - 1)}, \quad (2)$$

which has been obtained from the last of equations (4), page 327, by putting

$$\Sigma(x) = \Sigma(n) = 1 + 2 + \dots + n = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1);$$

$$\Sigma(x^2) = \Sigma(n^2) = 1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{1}{6}n(n+1)(2n+1);$$

$$\Sigma(y) = \Sigma(x_n) = x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n; \quad \Sigma(xy) = \Sigma(nx_n) = x_1 + 2x_2 + \dots + nx_n.$$

If  $n$  is odd, the middle measurement does not come in at all. It is therefore advisable to make an even number of observations. Such measurements might occur in finding the length of a rod at different temperatures; the oscillations of a galvanometer needle; the interval between the dust figures in Kundt's method for the velocity of sound in gases; the influence of  $\text{CH}_2$  on the physical and chemical properties of homologous series of organic chemistry, etc.

EXAMPLES.—(1) In a Kundt's experiment for the ratio of the specific heats of a gas, the dust figures were recorded in the laboratory notebook at 30.7, 43.1, 55.6, 67.9, 80.1, 92.3, 104.6, 116.9, 129.2, 141.7, 154.0, 166.1 centimetres. What is the best representative value for the distance between the nodes? Ansr. 12.3 cm.

(2) The following numbers were obtained for the time of vibration, in seconds, of the "magnet bar" in Gauss and Weber's magnetometer in some experiments on terrestrial magnetism: 3.25; 9.90; 16.65; 23.35; 30.00; 36.65; 43.30; 50.00; 56.70; 63.30; 69.80; 76.55; 83.30; 89.90; 96.65; 103.15; 109.80; 116.65; 123.25; 129.95; 136.70; 143.35. Show that the period of vibration is 6.707 seconds.

(3) An alternative method not dependent upon "least squares" is shown in the following example: a swinging galvanometer needle "reversed" at ( $a$ )

10 min. 9.90 sec.; (b) 10 min. 23.20 sec.; (c) 10 min. 36.45 sec.; (d) 10 min. 49.80 sec.; (e) 11 min. 3.25 sec.; (f) 11 min. 16.60 sec., required the period of oscillation. Subtract (a) from (d) and divide the result by 3. We get 13.300; subtract (b) from (e). We get 13.350; similarly, from (c) and (f) we get 13.383. Mean = 13.344 = period of oscillation.

### § 161. The Probable Error.

Some observations deviate so little from the mean that we may consider that value to be a very close approximation to the truth, in other cases the arithmetical mean is worth very little. The question, therefore, to be settled is, What degree of confidence may we have in selecting this mean as the best representative value of a series of observations? In other words, How good or how bad are the results?

We could employ Gauss' absolute measure of precision to answer this question. It is easy to show that *the measure of precision of two series of observations is inversely as their accuracy*. If the probabilities of an error  $x_1$ , lying between 0 and  $l_1$ , and of an error  $x_2$ , between 0 and  $l_2$ , are respectively

$$P_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{l_1} e^{-h_1^2 x_1^2} d(h_1 x_1); \quad P_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{l_2} e^{-h_2^2 x_2^2} d(h_2 x_2),$$

it is evident that when the observations are worth an equal degree of confidence,  $P_1 = P_2$ .

$$\therefore l_1 h_1 = l_2 h_2; \text{ or, } l_1 : l_2 = h_2 : h_1,$$

or the measure of precision of two series of observations is inversely as their accuracy. An error  $l_1$  will have the same degree of probability as an error  $l_2$  when the measure of precision of the two series of observations is the same. For instance if  $h_1 = 4h_2$ ,  $P_1 = P_2$  when  $l_2 = 4l_1$ , or four times the error will be committed in the second series with the same degree of probability as the single error in the first set. In other words, the first series of observations will be four times as accurate as the second. On account of certain difficulties in the application of this criterion, its use is mainly confined to theoretical discussions.

One way of showing how nearly the arithmetical mean represents all the observations, is to suppose all the errors arranged in their order of magnitude, irrespective of sign, and to select a quantity which will occupy a place midway between the extreme limits, so that the number of errors less than the assumed error is the same as those which exceed it. This is called the **probable**

error, not “the most probable error,” nor “the most probable value of the actual error”.

The probable error determines the degree of confidence we may have in using the mean as the best representative value of a series of observations. For instance, the atomic weight of oxygen ( $H = 1$ ) is said to be 15.879 with a probable error  $\pm 0.0003$ . This means that the arithmetical mean of a series of observations is 15.879, and the probability is  $\frac{1}{2}$ —that is, the odds are even, or you may bet £1 against £1—that the true atomic weight of oxygen lies between 15.8793 and 15.8787.

Referring to Fig. 171, let  $MP$  and  $M'P'$  be drawn at equal distances from  $Oy$  in such a way that the area bounded by these lines, the curve, and the  $x$ -axis (shaded part in the figure), is equal to half the whole area, bounded by the whole curve and the  $x$ -axis, then it will be obvious that half the total observations will have errors numerically less than  $OM'$ , and half, numerically greater

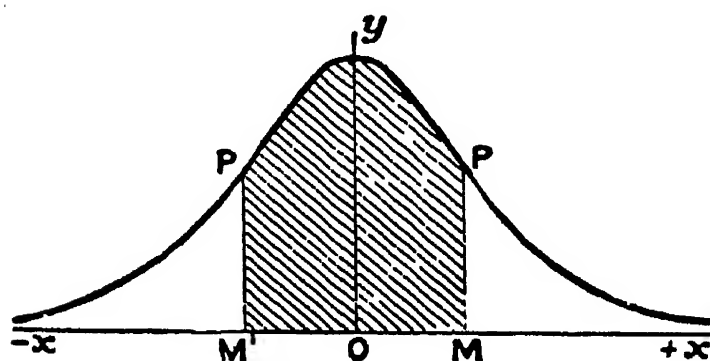


FIG. 171.

than  $OM$ , that is,  $OM$  represents the magnitude of the probable error,  $MP$  its probability.

The way some investigators refer to the smallness of the probable error affecting their results conveys the impression that this canon has been employed to em-

phasize the accuracy of the work. As a matter of fact, *the probable error does not refer to the accuracy of the work* nor to the magnitude of the errors, but only to the proportion in which the errors of different magnitudes occur. A series of measurements affected with a large probable error may be more accurate than another series with a small probable error, because the second set *may* be affected with a large constant error (*q.v.*).

The number of errors greater than the probable error is equal to the number of errors less than it. Any error selected at random is just as likely to be greater as less than the probable error. Hence, the probable error is the value of  $x$  in the integral

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{hx} e^{-h^2 x^2} d(hx), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

page 517. From Table X., page 621, when  $P = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $hx = 0.4769$ ;

or, if  $r$  is the probable error,

$$hr = 0.4769. \quad (2)$$

Now it has already been shown that

$$y = \frac{h dx}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-h^2 x^2}, \quad (3)$$

From page 500, therefore, the probability of the occurrence of the independent errors,  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is the product of their separate probabilities, or

$$P = \frac{h^n (dx)^n}{\sqrt{\pi^n}} e^{-h^2 \Sigma(x^2)}. \quad (4)$$

For any set of observations in which the measurements have been as accurate as possible,  $h$  has a maximum value. Differentiating the last equation in the usual way, and equating  $dP/dh$  to zero,

$$h = \pm \sqrt{\frac{n}{2 \Sigma(x^2)}}; \quad (5)$$

Substitute this in (2)

$$r = \pm 0.6745 \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(x^2)}{n}}. \quad (6)$$

But  $\Sigma(x^2)$  is the sum of the squares of the true errors. The true errors are unknown. By the principle of least squares, when measurements have an equal degree of confidence, the most probable value of the observed quantities are those which render the sum of the squares of the deviations of each observation from the mean, a minimum. Let  $\Sigma(v^2)$  denote the sum of the squares of the deviations of each observation from the mean. If  $n$  is large, we may put  $\Sigma(x^2) = \Sigma(v^2)$ ; but if  $n$  is a limited number,

$$\Sigma(v^2) < \Sigma(x^2); \therefore \Sigma(x^2) = \Sigma(v^2) + u^2. \quad (7)$$

All we know about  $u^2$  is that its value decreases as  $n$  increases, and increases when  $\Sigma(x^2)$  increases. It is generally supposed that the best approximation is obtained by writing

$$u^2 = \frac{\Sigma(x^2)}{n}; \therefore \frac{\Sigma(x^2)}{n} = \frac{\Sigma(v^2)}{n-1}.$$

Hence, the probable error,  $r$ , of a single observation is

$$r = \pm 0.6745 \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(v^2)}{n-1}}, \quad \text{SINGLE OBSERVATION} \quad (8)$$

which is virtually **Bessel's formula**, for the probable error of a single observation.  $\Sigma(v^2)$  denotes the sum of the squares of the numbers formed by subtracting each measurement from the



arithmetical mean of the whole series,  $n$  denotes the number of measurements actually taken. The probable error,  $R$ , of the arithmetical mean of the whole series of observations is

$$R = \pm 0.6745 \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(v^2)}{n(n-1)}}. \quad . \quad . \quad \text{ALL OBSERVATIONS (9)}$$

The derivation of this formula is given as Ex. (2), page 531. The last two results show that the probable error is diminished by increasing the number of observations. (8) and (9) are only approximations. They have no signification when the number of observations is small. Hence we may write  $\frac{2}{3}$  instead of 0.6745. For numerical applications, see next section.

The great labour involved in the squaring of the residual errors of a large number of observations may be avoided by the use of **Peter's approximation formula**. According to this, the probable error,  $r$ , of a single observation is

$$r = \pm 0.8453 \frac{\Sigma(+v)}{\sqrt{n(n-1)}}, \quad . \quad \text{SINGLE OBSERVATION (10)}$$

where  $\Sigma(+v)$  denotes the sum of the deviations of every observation from the mean, their sign being disregarded. The probable error,  $R$ , of the arithmetical mean of the whole series of observations is

$$R = \pm 0.8453 \frac{\Sigma(+v)}{n \sqrt{n-1}}. \quad . \quad \text{ALL OBSERVATIONS (11)}$$

Tables VI. to IX., pages 619 to 623, will reduce the labour in numerical calculations with Bessel's and with Peter's formulæ.

### § 162. Mean and Average Errors.

The arbitrary choice of the probable error for comparing the errors which are committed with equal facility in different sets of observations, appears most natural because the probable error occupies the middle place in a series arranged according to order of magnitude so that the number of errors less than the fictitious probable error, is the same as those which exceed it. There are other standards of comparison. In Germany, the favourite method is to employ the **mean error**, which is defined as *the error whose square is the mean of the squares of all the errors*, or the "error which, if it alone were assumed in all the observations indifferently, would give the same sum of the squares of the errors as that which

actually exists". We have seen, on page 516, (5), that the ratio,

$$\frac{\text{Number of errors between } x \text{ and } x + dx}{\text{Total number of errors}} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-h^2 x^2} dx.$$

Multiply both sides by  $x^2$  and we obtain

$$\frac{\text{Sum of squares of errors between } x \text{ and } x + dx}{\text{Total number of errors}} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{\pi}} x^2 e^{-h^2 x^2} dx.$$

By integrating between the limits  $+\infty$  and  $-\infty$  we get

$$\frac{\text{Sum of squares of all the errors}}{\text{Total number of errors}} = \frac{\Sigma(x^2)}{n} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x^2 e^{-h^2 x^2} dx.$$

Let  $m$  denote the mean error, then, by integration as on page 343,

$$m^2 = \frac{h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x^2 e^{-h^2 x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2h^2}; \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

and from (2) of the preceding section, we get

$$r = 0.6745m. \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

From (8) and (9), preceding section, the mean error,  $m$ , which affects each single observation is given by the expression

$$m = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(v^2)}{n-1}}; \quad . \quad . \quad \text{SINGLE OBSERVATION} \quad (3)$$

and the mean error,  $M$ , which affects the whole series of results,

$$M = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(v^2)}{n(n-1)}}. \quad . \quad . \quad \text{ALL OBSERVATIONS} \quad (4)$$

The mean error must not be confused with the "mean of the errors," or, as it is sometimes called, the **average error**,<sup>1</sup> another standard of comparison defined as the mean of all the errors regardless of sign. If  $a$  denotes the average error, we get from page 235,

$$a = \frac{\Sigma(+v)}{n} = \frac{2h}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} x e^{-h^2 x^2} dx = \frac{1}{h\sqrt{\pi}}; \quad r = 0.8454a. \quad (5)$$

The average error measures the average deviation of each observation from the mean of the whole series. It is a more useful standard of comparison than the probable error when the attention is directed to the relative accuracy of the individual observations in different series of observations. The average error depends not only upon the *proportion* in which the errors of differ-

---

<sup>1</sup> Some writers call our "average error" the "mean error," and our "mean error" the "error of mean square".

ent magnitudes occur, but also on the *magnitude* of the individual errors. The average error furnishes useful information even when the presence of (unknown) constant errors renders a further application of the "theory of errors" of questionable utility, because it will allow us to compare the magnitude of the constant errors affecting different series of observations, and so lead to their discovery and elimination.

The reader will be able to show presently that the average error,  $A$ , affecting the mean of  $n$  observations is given by the expression

$$A = \pm \frac{\Sigma(+v)}{n\sqrt{n}}. \quad (6)$$

This determines the effect of the average error of the individual observations upon the mean, and serves as a standard for comparing the relative accuracy of the means of different series of experiments made under similar conditions.

EXAMPLES.—(1) The following galvanometer deflections were obtained in some observations on the resistance of a circuit: 37.0, 36.8, 36.8, 36.9, 37.1. Find the probable and mean errors. This small number of observations is employed simply to illustrate the method of using the above formulæ. In practical work, mean or probable errors deduced from so small a number of observations are of little value. Arrange the following table:—

Number of Observation.	Deflection Observed.	Departure from Mean.	$v^2$ .
1	37.0	+ 0.08	0.0064
2	36.8	– 0.12	0.0144
3	36.8	– 0.12	0.0144
4	36.9	– 0.02	0.0004
5	37.1	+ 0.18	0.0324

$$\text{Mean} = 36.92; \Sigma(v^2) = 0.0680.$$

The numbers in the last two columns have been calculated from those in the second. Since  $n = 5$ , and writing  $\frac{2}{3}$  for 0.6745.

$$\text{Mean error of a single result} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{0.068}{4}} = \pm 0.13.$$

$$\text{Mean error of the mean} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{0.068}{5.4}} = \pm 0.058.$$

$$\text{Probable error of a single result} = \pm \frac{2}{3} \sqrt{\frac{0.068}{4}} = \pm 0.087.$$

$$\text{Probable error of the mean} = \pm \frac{2}{3} \sqrt{\frac{0.068}{5.4}} = \pm 0.039.$$

$$\text{Average error of a single result} = \pm \frac{0.52}{5} = \pm 0.104.$$

$$\text{Average error of the mean} = \pm \frac{0.52}{5\sqrt{5}} = \pm 0.0465.$$

The mean error of the arithmetical mean of the whole set of observations is written,  $36.92 \pm 0.058$ ; the probable error,  $36.92 \pm 0.089$ . It is unnecessary to include more than two significant figures. You will find the Tables on pages 619 and 620 convenient for the numerical work.

(2) F. Rudberg (*Pogg. Ann.*, 41, 271, 1837), found the coefficient of expansion  $\alpha$  of dry air by different methods to be  $\alpha \times 100 = 0.3643, 0.3654, 0.3644, 0.3650, 0.3653, 0.3636, 0.3651, 0.3643, 0.3643, 0.3645, 0.3646, 0.3662, 0.3840, 0.3902, 0.3652$ . Required the probable and mean errors on the assumption that the results are worth an equal degree of confidence.

(3) From Ex. (3), page 161, show that the mean error is the abscissa of the point of inflexion of the probability curve. For simplicity, put  $h = 1$ .

(4) Cavendish has published the result of 29 determinations of the mean density of the earth (*Phil. Trans.*, 88, 469, 1798) in which the first significant figure of all but one is 5:—4.88; 5.50; 5.61; 5.07; 5.26; 5.55; 5.36; 5.29; 5.58; 5.65; 5.57; 5.53; 5.62; 5.29; 5.44; 5.34; 5.79; 5.10; 5.17; 5.39; 5.42; 5.47; 5.63; 5.34; 5.46; 5.30; 5.75; 5.68; 5.85. Verify the following results: Mean = 5.45;  $\Sigma(+v) = 5.04$ ;  $\Sigma(v^2) = 1.367$ ;  $M = \pm 0.041$ ;  $m = \pm 0.221$ ;  $R = \pm 0.0277$ ;  $r = \pm 0.149$ ;  $a = 0.18$ ;  $A = \pm 0.038$ .

The relation between the probable error, the mean error, the average error, and the absolute measure of an error can be obtained from (2), page 523; (2), page 516; and (5), page 516. We have, in fact, if modulus,  $h = 1.0000$ ; mean error,  $m = 0.7071$ ; average error,  $a = 0.5642$ ; probable error,  $r = 0.4769$ .

The following results are convenient in combining measurements affected with different mean or probable errors:

*I. The mean error of the SUM or DIFFERENCE of a number of observations is equal to the square root of the sum of the squares of the mean errors of each of the observations.* Let  $x_1, x_2$ , represent two independent measurements whose sum or difference combines to make a final result  $X$ , so that

$$X = x_1 + x_2.$$

Let the mean errors of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , be  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  respectively. If  $M$  denotes the mean error in  $X$ ,

$$X \pm M = (x_1 \pm m_1) + (x_2 \pm m_2).$$

$$\therefore \pm M = \pm m_1 \pm m_2.$$

However we arrange the signs of  $M, m_1, m_2$ , in the last equation, we can only obtain, by squaring, one or other of the following expressions:—

$$M^2 = m_1^2 + 2m_1m_2 + m_2^2; \text{ or, } M^2 = m_1^2 - 2m_1m_2 + m_2^2,$$

it makes no difference which. Hence the mean error is to be found

by taking the mean of both these results. That is to say,

$$M^2 = m_1^2 + m_2^2; \text{ or, } M = \pm \sqrt{m_1^2 + m_2^2},$$

because the terms containing  $+m_1m_2$  and  $-m_1m_2$  cancel each other. This means that the products of any pair of residual errors ( $m_1m_2$ ,  $m_1m_3$ , ...) in an extended series of observations will have positive as often as negative signs. Consequently, the influence of these terms on the mean value will be negligibly small in comparison with the terms  $m_1^2$ ,  $m_2^2$ ,  $m_3^2$ , ..., which are always positive. Hence, for any number of observations,

$$M^2 = m_1^2 + m_2^2 + \dots; \text{ or, } M = \pm \sqrt{(m_1^2 + m_2^2 + \dots)}. \quad (7)$$

From equation (2), page 525, the mean error is proportional to the probable error  $R$ ,  $m_1$  to  $r_1$ , ..., hence,

$$R^2 = r_1^2 + r_2^2 + \dots; \text{ or, } R = \pm \sqrt{(r_1^2 + r_2^2 + \dots)}. \quad (8)$$

In other words, *the probable error of the SUM or DIFFERENCE of two quantities A and B respectively affected with probable errors  $\pm a$  and  $\pm b$  is*

$$R = \pm \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}. \quad (9)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) The molecular weight of titanium chloride ( $\text{TiCl}_4$ ) is known to be  $188.545$  with a probable error  $\pm 0.0092$ , and the atomic weight of chlorine  $35.179 \pm 0.0048$ , what is the atomic weight of titanium? Ansr.  $47.829 \pm 0.0213$ . Hints.

$$188.545 - 4 \times 35.179 = 47.829; R = \sqrt{(0.0092)^2 + (4 \times 0.0048)^2} = \pm 0.0213.$$

It will be obvious that we shall ignore the advice given in § 94, pages 273 to 276, if we are not very careful in the interpretation of the probable error in these *illustrative* examples.

(2) The mean errors affecting  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  in the formula  $R = k(\theta_2 - \theta_1)$  are respectively  $\pm 0.0003$  and  $\pm 0.0004$ , what is the mean error affecting  $\theta_2 - \theta_1$  and  $3(\theta_2 - \theta_1)$ ? Ansr.  $\pm 0.0005$  and  $\pm 0.0015$ .

II. *The probable error of the PRODUCT of two quantities A and B respectively affected with the probable errors  $\pm a$  and  $\pm b$  is*

$$R = \pm \sqrt{(Ab)^2 + (Ba)^2}. \quad (10)$$

If a third mean, C, with a probable error,  $\pm c$ , is included,

$$R = \pm \sqrt{(BCa)^2 + (ACb)^2 + (ABc)^2}. \quad (11)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Thorpe found that the molecular ratio

$$4\text{Ag} : \text{TiCl}_4 = 100 : 44.017 \pm 0.0031.$$

Hence determine the molecular weight of titanium tetrachloride, given the atomic weight of silver =  $107.108 \pm 0.0031$ . Ansr.  $188.583 \pm 0.0144$ . Hint.

$$R = \pm \sqrt{\{(4 \times 107.108 \times 0.0031)^2 + (44.017 \times 4 \times 0.0031)^2\}}.$$

(2) The specific heat of tin is  $0.0537$  with a mean error of  $\pm 0.0014$ , and the atomic weight of the same metal is  $118.150 \pm 0.0089$ , show that the mean error of the product of these two quantities (Dulong and Petit's law) is  $6.34 \pm 0.1654$ .

III. The probable error of the QUOTIENT ( $B \div A$ ) of two quantities  $A$  and  $B$  respectively affected with the probable errors  $\pm a$  and  $\pm b$  is

$$R = \pm \frac{\sqrt{\left(\frac{Ba}{A}\right)^2 + b^2}}{A} \quad (12)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) It is known that the atomic ratio

$$\text{Cu} : 2\text{Ag} = 100 : 339.411 \pm 0.0039,$$

what is the atomic weight of copper given  $\text{Ag} = 107.108 \pm 0.0031$ ? Ansr.  $63.114 \pm 0.0020$ . Hint.

$$R = \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{214.216 \times 0.0039}{339.411}\right)^2 + (0.0062)^2} \div 339.411 = \pm 0.0020.$$

$$\text{Cu} : 2 \times 107.108 = 100 : 339.411; \therefore \text{Cu} = 63.114.$$

(2) Suppose that the maximum pressure of the aqueous vapour,  $f_1$ , in the atmosphere at  $16^\circ$  is found to be  $8.2000$ , with a mean error  $\pm 0.0024$ , and the maximum pressure of aqueous vapour,  $f_2$ , at the dewpoint, at  $16^\circ$ , is  $13.5000$ , with a mean error of  $\pm 0.0012$ . The relative humidity,  $h$ , of the air is given by the expression  $h = f_1/f_2$ . Show that the relative humidity at  $16^\circ$  is  $0.6074 \pm 0.0002$ .

IV. The probable error of the PROPORTION

$$A : B = C : x,$$

where  $A, B, C$ , are quantities respectively affected with the probable errors  $\pm a, \pm b, \pm c$ , is

$$R = \pm \frac{\sqrt{\left(\frac{BCa}{A}\right)^2 + (Cb)^2 + (Bc)^2}}{A} \quad (13)$$

EXAMPLE.—Stas found that  $\text{AgClO}_3$  furnished  $25.080 \pm 0.0019$  % of oxygen and  $74.920 \pm 0.0003$  % of  $\text{AgCl}$ . If the atomic weight of oxygen is  $15.879 \pm 0.0003$ , what is the molecular weight of  $\text{AgCl}$ ? Ansr.  $142.303 \pm 0.0066$ . Hints.  $25.080 : 74.920 = 3 \times 15.879 : x$ ;  $\therefore x = 142.303$ .

$$R = \pm \frac{\sqrt{\left\{\left(\frac{74.92 \times 47.637 \times 0.001}{25.08}\right)^2 + (47.637 \times 0.001)^2 + (74.92 \times 3 \times 0.0009)^2\right\}}}{\sqrt{25.08}}.$$

If the proportion be

$$A : B = C + x : D + x,$$

the probable error is given by

$$R = \pm \sqrt{\frac{(C-D)^2}{(A-B)^4} (B^2 a^2 + A^2 b^2) + \frac{B^2 c^2 + A^2 d^2}{(A-B)^2}} \quad (14)$$

EXAMPLE.—Stas found that  $31.488 \pm 0.0006$  grams of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  were equivalent to 100 grams of  $\text{AgNO}_3$ . Hence determine the atomic weight of nitrogen, given  $\text{Ag} = 107.108 \pm 0.0031$ ;  $\text{Cl} = 35.179 \pm 0.0048$ ;  $\text{H} = 1$ ;  $\text{O}_3 = 47.637 \pm 0.0009$ . Ansr.  $13.911 \pm 0.0048$ .

V. *The probable error of the arithmetical mean of a series of observations is inversely as the square root of their number.* Let  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$  be the probable errors of a series of independent observations  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ , which have to be combined so as to make up a final result  $u$ . Let the probable errors be respectively proportional to the actual errors  $da_1, da_2, \dots, da_n$ . The final result  $u$  is a function such that

$$u = f(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n).$$

The influence of each separate variable on the final result may be determined by partial differentiation so that

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial a_1} da_1 + \frac{\partial u}{\partial a_2} da_2 + \dots \quad (15)$$

where  $da_1, da_2, \dots$  represent the actual errors committed in measuring  $a_1, a_2, \dots$ ; the partial differential coefficients determine the effect of these variables upon the final result  $u$ ; and  $du$  represents the actual error in  $u$  due to the joint occurrence of the errors  $da_1, da_2, \dots$ . Put  $R$  in place of  $du$ ;  $r_1$  in place of  $da_1$ , etc.; square (15) and

$$R^2 = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial a_1}\right)^2 r_1^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial a_2}\right)^2 r_2^2 + \dots \quad (16)$$

since cross products are negligibly small. The arithmetical mean of  $n$  observations is

$$u = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n},$$

therefore,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial a_1} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial a_2} = \dots = \frac{1}{n}; \quad \therefore R^2 = \frac{r_1^2 + r_2^2 + \dots + r_n^2}{n^2}.$$

But the observations have an equal degree of precision, and therefore,  $r_1^2 = r_2^2 = \dots = r_n^2 = r^2$ .

$$\therefore R = \pm \sqrt{\frac{nr^2}{n^2}} = \pm \frac{r}{\sqrt{n}}. \quad (17)$$

This result shows how easy it is to overrate the effect of multiplying observations. If  $R$  denotes the probable error of the mean of 8 observations, four times as many, or 32 observations must be made to give a probable error of  $\frac{1}{2}R$ ; nine times as many, or 72 observations must be made to reduce  $R$  to  $\frac{1}{3}R$ , etc.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Two series of determinations of the atomic weight of oxygen by a certain process gave respectively  $15.8726 \pm 0.00058$  and  $15.8769 \pm 0.00058$ . Hence show that the atomic weight is accordingly written  $15.87475 \pm 0.00041$ .

(2) In the preceding section, § 161, given formula (8) deduce (9). Hint. Use (17), present section.

(3) Deduce Peter's approximation formulæ (10) and (11), § 161. Hint. Since  $\Sigma(x^2)/n = \Sigma(v^2)/(n-1)$ , page 524, we may suppose that on the average  $\Sigma(x) : \sqrt{n} = \Sigma(v) : \sqrt{n-1}$ , etc.  $\Sigma x/n$  is the mean of the errors, and if  $\Sigma x/n =$  probability integral, page 522,  $= 1/h \sqrt{\pi}$ , it follows from (2), page 528,  $r = 0.8453 \Sigma x/n$ , etc. See also (2) page 516.

(4) Show that when  $n$  is large, the result of dividing the mean of the squares of the errors by the square of the mean of the errors is constant. Hint. Show that

$$\frac{\Sigma(v^2)}{n} \div \left( \frac{\Sigma(v)}{n} \right)^2 = \frac{\pi}{2} = 1.57. \quad (18)$$

This has been proposed as a test of the fidelity of the observations, and of the accuracy of the arithmetical work. For instance, the numbers quoted in the example on page 554 give  $\Sigma(v) = 55.58$ ;  $\Sigma(v^2) = 854.85$ ;  $n = 14$ ; constant  $= 1.60$ . The canon does not usually work very well with a small number of observations.

(5) Show that the probable (or mean) error is inversely proportional to the absolute measure of precision. Hint. From (1) and (2)

$$r = \frac{1}{h} \times \text{constant}; \therefore r \propto \frac{1}{h}. \quad (19)$$

### § 163. Numerical Values of the Probability Integrals.

We have discussed the two questions:

1. What is the best representative value of a series of measurements affected with errors of observations?

2. How nearly does the arithmetical mean represent all of a given set of measurements affected with errors of observation?

It now remains to inquire

3. *How closely does the arithmetical mean approximate to the absolute truth?* To illustrate, we may use the results of Crookes' model research on the atomic weight of thallium (*Phil. Trans.*, 163, 277, 1874). Crooke's determination of this constant gave

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 203.628; 203.632; 203.636; 203.638; 203.639 \\ 203.642; 203.644; 203.649; 203.650; 203.666; \end{array} \right\} \text{Mean: } 203.642.$$

The arithmetical mean is only one of an infinite number of possible values of the atomic weight of thallium between the extreme limits 203.628 and 203.666. It is very probable that 203.642 is *not* the true value, but it is also very probable that 203.642 is *very near* to the true value sought. The question "How near?" cannot be answered. Alter the question to "What is the probability that the truth is comprised between the limits  $203.642 \pm x$ ?" and the answer may be readily obtained however small we choose to make the number  $x$ .



First, suppose that the absolute measure of precision,  $h$ , of the arithmetical mean is known. Table X. gives the numerical values of the probability integral

$$P = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{hx} e^{-h^2 x^2} d(hx),$$

where  $P$  denotes the probability that an error of observation will have a positive or negative value equal to or less than  $x$ ,  $h$  is the measure of the degree of precision of the results.

When  $h$  is unity, the value of  $P$  is read off from the table directly. To illustrate, we read that when  $x = \pm 0.1$   $P = .112$ ; when  $x = \pm 0.2$   $P = .223$ ; . . ., meaning that if 1,000 errors are committed in a set of observations with a modulus of precision  $h = 1$ , 112 of the errors will lie between  $+ 0.1$  and  $- 0.1$ , 223 between  $+ 0.2$  and  $- 0.2$ , etc. Or, 888 of the errors will exceed the limits  $\pm 0.1$ ; 777 errors will exceed the limits  $\pm 0.2$ ; . . . When

$h$  is not unity, we must use  $\frac{0.1}{h}$   $\frac{0.2}{h}$ , . . ., in place of 0.1, 0.2.

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $hx = 0.64$ ,  $P$ , from the table, is 0.6346. Hence 0.6346 denotes the probability that the error  $x$  will be less than  $0.64/h$ , that is to say, 63.46 % of the errors will lie between the limits  $\pm 0.64/h$ . The remaining 36.54 % will lie outside these limits.

(2) Required a probability that an error will be comprised between the limits  $\pm 0.3$  ( $h = 1$ ). Ansr. 0.829.

(3) Required the probability that an error will lie between  $- 0.01$  and  $+ 0.1$  of say a milligram. This is the sum of the probabilities of the limits from 0 to  $- 0.01$  and from 0 to  $+ 0.1$  ( $h = 1$ ).

(4) Required the probability that an error will lie between  $+ 1.0$  and  $+ 0.01$ . This is the difference of the probabilities of errors between 1.0 and zero and between 0.01 and zero ( $h = 1$ ). Ansr.  $\frac{1}{2}(0.8427 - 0.0113) = 0.4157$ .

This table, therefore, enables us to find the relation between the magnitude of an error and the frequency with which that error will be committed in making a large number of careful measurements. It is usually more convenient to work from the probable error  $R$  than from the modulus  $h$ . More practical illustrations have, in consequence, been included in the next set of examples.

Second, suppose that the probable error of the arithmetical mean is known. Table XI. gives the numerical values of the probability integral

$$P = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{\frac{x}{r}} e^{-\left(\frac{x}{r}\right)^2} d\left(\frac{x}{r}\right),$$

where  $P$  denotes the probability that an error of observation of a positive or negative value, equal to or less than  $x$ , will be committed in the arithmetical mean of a series of measurements with probable error  $r$  (or  $R$ ). This table makes no reference to  $h$ . To illustrate its use, of 1,000 errors, 54 will be less than  $\frac{1}{10}R$ ; 500 less than  $R$ ; 823 less than  $2R$ ; 957 less than  $3R$ ; 993 less than  $4R$ ; and one will be greater than  $5R$ .  $r$  (or  $R$ ) =  $a/h$ , where  $h$  is a measure of the precision and  $a$  is a constant of value 0.4769.

EXAMPLES.—(1) A series of results are represented by 6.9 with a probable error  $\pm 0.25$ . The probability that the probable error is less than 0.25 is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . What is the probability that the actual error will be less than 0.75. Here  $x/R = 0.75/0.25 = 3$ . From the table,  $p = 0.9570$  when  $x/R = 3$ . This means that 95.7 % of the errors will be less than 0.75 and 4.3 % greater.

(2) D. Gill finds the solar parallax to be  $8.802'' \pm 0.005$ . What is the probability that the solar parallax may lie between  $8.802'' \pm 0.025$ . Here  $x/R = 0.025 \div 0.005 = 5$ . When  $R = 5$ , Table XI.,  $P = 0.9993$ . This means that £9993 might be bet in favour of the event, and £7, against the event.

(3) Dumas has recorded the following 19 determinations of the chemical equivalent of hydrogen ( $O = 100$ ) using sulphuric acid ( $H_2SO_4$ ) with some, and phosphorus pentoxide ( $P_2O_5$ ) as the drying agent in other cases:

i.  $H_2SO_4$ : 12.472, 12.480, 12.548, 12.489, 12.496, 12.522, 12.533, 12.546, 12.550, 12.562;

ii.  $P_2O_5$ : 12.480, 12.491, 12.490, 12.490, 12.508, 12.547, 12.490, 12.551, 12.551. J. B. A. Dumas' "Recherches sur la Composition de l'Eau," *Ann. Chim. Phys.*, [3], 8, 200, 1848. What is the probability that there will be an error between the limits  $\pm 0.015$  in the mean (12.515), assuming that the results are free from constant errors? The chemical student will perhaps see the relation of his answer to Prout's law. Hints.  $x/R = t$ ;  $R = 0.005685$ ;  $x = 0.015$ ;  $\therefore t = 2.63$ . From Table XI., when  $t = 2.63$ ,  $P = 0.969$ . Hence the odds are 969 to 31 that the mean 12.515 is affected by no greater error than is comprised within the limits  $\pm 0.015$ . To exemplify Table X.,  $h = 0.4769/R = 102$ ,  $\therefore hx = 102 \times 0.015 = 1.53$ . From the Table,  $P = 0.924$  when  $hx = 1.53$ , etc. That is to say, 96.9 % of the errors will be less and 3.1 % greater than the assigned limits.

(4) From W. Crookes' ten determinations of the atomic weight of thallium (above) calculate the probability that the atomic weight of thallium lies between 203.632 and 203.652. Here  $x = \pm 0.01$ ;  $R \pm = 0.0023$ ;  $\therefore t = x/R = 4.4$ . From Table XI.,  $P = 0.997$ . (Note how near this number is to unity indicating certainty.) The chances are 332 to 1 that the true value of the atomic weight of thallium lies between 203.632 and 203.652. We get the same result by means of Table X. Thus  $h = 0.4769 \div 0.0023 = 207$ ;  $\therefore hx = 207 \times 0.01 = 2.07$ . When  $hx = 2.07$ ,  $P = 0.997$ . If 1,000 observations were made under the same conditions as Crookes', we could reasonably expect 997 of them to be affected by errors numerically less than 0.01, and only 3 observations would be affected by errors exceeding these limits.

The rules and formulæ deduced up to the present are by no means inviolable. The reader must constantly bear in mind the fundamental assumptions upon which we are working. If these conditions are not fulfilled, the conclusions may not only be superfluous, but even erroneous. The necessary conditions are :

1. Every observation is as likely to be in error as every other one.

2. There is no perturbing influence to cause the results to have a bias or tendency to deviate more in some directions than in others.

3. A large number of observations has been made. In practice, the number of observations may be considerably reduced if the second condition is fulfilled. In the ordinary course of things from 10 to 25 is usually considered a sufficient number.

### § 164. Maxwell's Law of Distribution of Molecular Velocities.

In a preceding discussion, the velocities of the molecules of a gas were assumed to be the same. Can this simplifying assumption be justified?

According to the kinetic theory, a gas is supposed to consist of a number of perfectly elastic spheres moving about in space with a certain velocity. In case of impact on the walls of the bounding vessel, the molecules are supposed to rebound according to known dynamical laws. This accounts for the pressure of a gas. The velocities of all the molecules of a gas in a state of equilibrium are not the same. Some move with a greater velocity than others. At one time a molecule may be moving with a great velocity, at another time, with a relatively slow speed. The attempt has been made to find a law governing the distribution of the velocities of the motions of the different molecules, and with some success. Maxwell's law is based upon the assumption that the same relations hold for the velocities of the molecules as for errors of observation. This assumption has played a most important part in the development of the kinetic theory of gases. The probability  $y$  that a molecule will have a velocity equal to  $v$  is given by an expression of the type :

$$y = \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \frac{v}{a} \right)^2 e^{-\left( \frac{v}{a} \right)^2} . . . . . (1)$$

Very few molecules will have velocities outside a certain re-

stricted range. It is possible for a molecule to have any velocity whatever, but the probability of the existence of velocities outside certain limits is vanishingly small. The reader will get a better idea of the distribution of the velocities of the molecules by plotting the graph of the above equation for himself. Remember that the ordinates are proportional to the number of molecules, abscissæ to their speed. Areas bounded by the  $x$ -axis, the curve and certain ordinates will give an idea of the number of molecules possessing velocities between the abscissæ corresponding to the boundary ordinates. In Fig. 172 the shaded portion represents the number of molecules with velocities lying between  $V_0$  and  $1.5V_0$ .

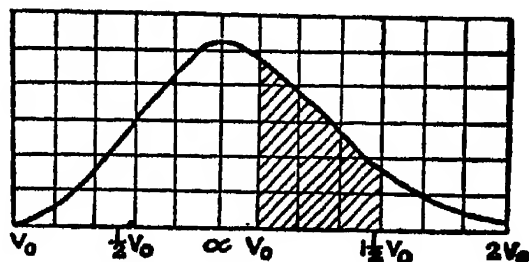


FIG. 172.

**EXAMPLE.**—By the ordinary methods for finding a maximum, show from (1), that  $y$  is a maximum when  $v = a$ .

Returning to the study of the kinetic theory of gases, p. 504, the number of molecules with velocities between  $v$  and  $v + dv$  is assumed to be represented by an equation analogous to the expression employed to represent the errors of mean square of page 525, namely,

$$dN = \frac{4N}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \frac{v}{a} \right)^2 e^{-\left( \frac{v}{a} \right)^2} d\left( \frac{v}{a} \right), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

where  $N$  represents the total number of molecules,  $a$  is a constant to be evaluated.

*I. To find a value for the constant  $a$  in terms of the average velocity  $V_0$  of the molecules.* Since there are  $dN$  molecules with a velocity  $v$ , the sum of the velocities of all these  $dN$  molecules is  $vdN$ , and the sum of the velocities of *all* the molecules must be

$$\int_{v=0}^{v=\infty} vdN; \therefore V_0 = \frac{4a}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} \left( \frac{v}{a} \right)^3 e^{-\frac{v^2}{a^2}} d\left( \frac{v}{a} \right) = \frac{4}{a^3 \sqrt{\pi}} \cdot \frac{a^4}{2} = \frac{2a}{\sqrt{\pi}}$$

from (2). Where has  $N$  gone? The average velocity  $V_0$  is one  $N$ th of the sum of the velocities of the  $N$  given molecules. Hence,

$$a = \frac{1}{2} V_0 \sqrt{\pi}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

*II. To find the average velocity of the molecules of a gas.* By a well-known theorem in elementary mechanics, the kinetic energy of a mass  $m$  moving with a velocity  $v$  is  $\frac{1}{2}mv^2$ . Hence, the sum of the

kinetic energies of the  $dN$  molecules will be  $\frac{1}{2}(mdN)v^2$ , because there are  $dN$  molecules moving with a velocity  $v$ . From (2), therefore, the total kinetic energy ( $T$ ) of *all* the molecules is

$$T = \int_{v=0}^{v=\infty} \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \cdot dN = \frac{2Nm}{a^3\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty v^4 \cdot e^{-\frac{v^2}{a^2}} dv = \frac{3}{4}Nm a^2 = \frac{3}{4}M a^2.$$

$$\therefore a = 2\sqrt{\frac{T}{3M}} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

where  $M = Nm$  = total mass of  $N$  molecules each of mass  $m$ . The total kinetic energy of  $N$  molecules of the same kind is

$T = \frac{1}{2}mv_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}mv_2^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{2}mv_N^2 = \frac{1}{2}m(v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_N^2)$ . (5)  
The velocity of mean square,  $U$ , is defined as the velocity whose square is the average of the squares of the velocities of all the  $N$  molecules, or,

$$U^2 = \frac{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_N^2}{N}; \therefore T = \frac{1}{2}mNU^2 = \frac{1}{2}MU^2, \quad (6)$$

from (5). Again, from (4) and (6), we have

$$a = \frac{2U}{\sqrt{6}}; \quad V_0 = \frac{4U}{\sqrt{6\pi}} = 0.9213 U. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

Most works on chemical theory give a simple method of proving that if  $p$  denotes the pressure and  $\rho$  the density of a gas,

$$p = \frac{1}{3}\rho U^2. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

This in conjunction with (6) allows the average velocity of the molecules of a gas to be calculated from the known values of the pressure and density of the gas, as shown in any *Textbook on Physical Chemistry*.

The reader is no doubt familiar with the principle underlying Maxwell's law, and, indeed, the whole kinetic theory of gases. I may mention two examples. The number of passengers on say the 3.10 P.M. suburban daily train is fairly constant in spite of the fact that that train does not carry the same passenger two days running. Insurance companies can average the number of deaths per 1,000 of population with great exactness. Of course I say nothing of disturbing factors. A bank holiday may require provision for a supra-normal traffic, and an epidemic will run up the death rate of a community. The commercial success of these institutions is, however, sufficient testimony of the truth of the **method of averages**, otherwise called the **statistical method** of investigation. The same type of mathematical expression is required in each case.

It will thus be seen that calculations, based on the supposition that all the molecules possess equal velocities, are quite admissible in a first approximation. The net result of the "dance of the molecules" is a distribution of the different velocities among all the molecules, which is maintained with great exactness.

G. H. Darwin has deduced values for the mean free path, etc., from the hypothesis that the molecules of the same gas are not all the same size. He has examined the consequences of the assumption that the sizes of the molecules are ranged according to a law like that governing the frequency of errors of observation. For this, see his memoir "On the mechanical conditions of a swarm of meteorites" (*Phil. Trans.*, 180, 1, 1889).

### § 165. Constant or Systematic Errors.

The irregular accidental errors hitherto discussed have this distinctive feature, they are just as likely to have a positive as a negative value. But there are errors which have not this character. If the barometer vacuum is imperfect, every reading will be too small; if the glass bulb of a thermometer has contracted after graduation, the zero point rises in such a way as to falsify all subsequent readings; if the points of suspension of the balance pans are at unequal distances from the centre of oscillation of the beam, the weighings will be inaccurate. A change of temperature of  $5^{\circ}$  or  $6^{\circ}$  may easily cause an error of 0.2 to 1.0 % in an analysis, owing to the change in the volume of the standard solution. Such defective measurements are said to be affected by **constant errors**.<sup>1</sup> By definition, constant errors are produced by well-defined causes which make the errors of observation preponderate more in one direction than in another. Thus, some of Dumas' determinations of the atomic weight of silver are affected by a constant error due to the occlusion of oxygen by metallic silver in the course of his work.

One of the greatest trials of an investigator is to detect and if

---

<sup>1</sup> **Personal error.** This is another type of constant error which depends on the personal qualities of the observer. Thus the differences in the judgments of the astronomers at the Greenwich Observatory as to the observed time of transit of a star and the assumed instant of its actual occurrence, are said to vary from  $\frac{1}{100}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a second, and to remain fairly constant for the same observer. Some persistently read the burette a little high, others a little low. Vernier readings, analyses based on colorimetric tests (such as Nessler's ammonia process), etc., may be affected by personal errors.

possible eliminate constant errors. "The history of science teaches all too plainly the lesson that no single method is absolutely to be relied upon, and that sources of error lurk where they are least expected, and that they may escape the notice of the most experienced and conscientious worker."<sup>1</sup> Two questions of the gravest moment are now presented. How are constant errors to be detected? How may the effect of constant errors be eliminated from a set of measurements? This is usually done by modifying the conditions under which the experiments are performed. "It is only by the concurrence of evidence of various kinds and from various sources," continues Lord Rayleigh, "that practical certainty may at least be attained, and complete confidence restored." Thus the magnitude is measured under different conditions, with different instruments, etc. It is assumed that even though each method or apparatus has its own specific constant error, all these constant errors taken collectively will have the character of accidental errors. To take a concrete illustration, faulty "sights" on a rifle may cause a constant deviation of the bullets in one direction; the "sights" on another rifle may cause a constant "error" in another direction, and so, as the number of rifles increases, the constant errors assume the character of accidental errors and thus, in the long run, tend to compensate each other. This is why Stas generally employed several different methods to determine his atomic weights. To quote one practical case, Stas made two sets of determinations of the numerical value of the ratio  $\text{Ag} : \text{KCl}$ . In one set, four series of determinations were made with KCl prepared from four different sources in conjunction with one specimen of silver, and in the other set different series of experiments were made with silver prepared from different sources in conjunction with one sample of KCl. Unfortunately the latter set was never completed.

The calculation of an arithmetical mean is analogous to the process of guessing the centre of a target from the distribution of the "hits" (Fig. 165). If all the shots are affected by the same constant error, the centre, so estimated, will deviate from the true centre by an amount depending on the magnitude of the (presumably unknown) constant error. If this magnitude can be subsequently determined, a simple arithmetical operation (addition or subtraction) will give the correct value. Thus Stas found that the amount of

---

<sup>1</sup> Lord Rayleigh's Presidential Address, B.A. Reports, 1884.



potassium chloride equivalent to 100 parts of silver in one case was as

$$\text{Ag} : \text{KCl} = 100 : 69.1209.$$

The KCl was subsequently found to contain 0.00259 per cent. of silica. The chemical student will see that 0.00179 has consequently to be subtracted from 69.1209. Hence,

$$\text{Ag} : \text{KCl} = 100 : 69.11903.$$

After Lord Rayleigh (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 43, 356, 1888) had proved that the capacity of an exhausted glass globe is less than when the globe is full of gas, all measurements of the densities of gases involving the use of exhausted globes had to be corrected for shrinkage. Thus Regnault's ratio, 1 : 15.9611, for the relative densities of hydrogen and oxygen was "corrected for shrinkage" to 1 : 15.9105. The proper numerical corrections for the constant errors of a thermometer are indicated on the well-known "Kew certificate," etc.

If the mean error of each set of results differs, by an amount to be expected, from the mean errors of the different sets measured with the same instrument under the same conditions, no constant error is likely to be present. The different series of atomic weight determinations of the same chemical element, published by the same, or by different observers, do not stand this test satisfactorily. Hence, Ostwald concludes that constant errors must have been present even though they have escaped the experimenter's ken.

EXAMPLE.—Discuss the following: "Merely increasing the *number* of experiments, without varying the conditions or method of observation, diminishes the influence of accidental errors. It is, however, useless to multiply the number of observations beyond a certain limit. On the other hand, the greater the *number and variety* of the observations, the more complete will be the elimination of the effects of both constant and accidental errors."

### § 166. Proportional Errors.

One of the greatest sources of error in scientific measurements occurs when the quantity cannot be measured directly. In such cases, two or more separate observations may have to be made on different magnitudes. Each observation contributes some little inaccuracy to the final result. Thus Faraday has determined the thickness of gold leaf from the weight of a certain number of sheets. Foucault measures time, Le Chatelier measures tempera-



ture in terms of an angular deviation. The determination of the rate of a chemical reaction often depends on a number of more or less troublesome analyses.<sup>1</sup>

For this reason, among others, many chemists prefer the standard  $O=16$  as the basis of their system of atomic weights. The atomic weights of most of the elements have been determined directly or indirectly with reference to oxygen. If  $H=1$  be the basis, the atomic weights of most of the elements depend on the nature of the relation between oxygen and hydrogen—a relation which has not yet been fixed in a satisfactory manner. The best determinations made since 1887 vary between  $H:O=1:15.96$  and  $H:O=1:15.87$ . If the former ratio be adopted, the atomic weights of antimony and uranium would be respectively 119.6 and 239.0; while if the latter ratio be employed, these units become respectively 118.9 and 237.7, a difference of one and two units! It is, therefore, better to contrive that the atomic weights of the elements do not depend on the uncertainty of the ratio  $H:O$ , by adopting the basis:  $O=16$ .

If the quantity to be determined is deduced by calculation from a measurement, Taylor's theorem furnishes a convenient means of criticizing the conditions under which any proposed experiment is to be performed, and at the same time furnishes a valuable insight into the effect of an error in the measurement on the whole result. It is of the greatest importance that every investigator should have a clear idea of the different sources of error to which his results are liable in order to be able to discriminate between important and unimportant sources of error, and to find just where the greatest attention must be paid in order to obtain the best results. The necessary accuracy is to be obtained with the least expenditure of labour.

*I. Proportional errors of simple measurements.* Let  $y$  be the desired quantity to be calculated from a magnitude  $x$  which can be measured directly and is connected with  $y$  by the relation

$$y = f(x).$$

$f(x)$  is always affected with some error  $dx$  which causes  $y$  to deviate from the truth by an amount  $dy$ . The error will then be

$$dy = (y + dy) - y = f(x + dx) - f(x).$$

---

<sup>1</sup> Indirect results are liable to another source of error. The formula employed may be so inexact that accurate measurements give but grossly approximate results. For instance, a first approximation formula may have been employed when the accuracy of the observations required one more precise;  $\pi = \frac{22}{7}$  may have been put in place of  $\pi = 3.14159$ ; or the coefficient of expansion of a perfect gas has been applied to an imperfect gas. Such errors are called *errors of method*.

$dx$  is necessarily a small magnitude, therefore, by Taylor's theorem,

$$f(x + dx) = f(x) + f'(x) \cdot dx + \dots,$$

or, neglecting the higher orders of magnitude,

$$dy = f'(x) \cdot dx.$$

The relation between the error and the total magnitude of  $y$  is

$$\frac{dy}{y} = \frac{f'(x) \cdot dx}{f(x)}. \quad (1)$$

All this means is that the differential of a function represents the change in the value of the function when the variable suffers an infinitesimal change. The student learned this the first day he attacked the calculus. The ratio  $dy : y$  is called the **proportional, relative, or fractional error**, that is to say, the ratio of the error involved in the whole process to the total quantity sought; while  $100dy : y$  is called the **percentage error**. The degree of accuracy of a measurement is determined by the magnitude of the proportional error.

$$\text{Proportional Error} = \frac{\text{Magnitude of error}}{\text{Total magnitude of quantity measured}}.$$

Students often fail to understand why their results seem all wrong when the experiments have been carefully performed and the calculations correctly done. For instance, the molecular weight of a substance is known to be either 160, or some multiple of 160. To determine which, 0.380 (or  $w$ ) grm. of the substance was added to 14.01 (or  $w_1$ ) grms. of acetone boiling at  $\theta_1^\circ$  (or  $3.50^\circ$ ) on Beckmann's arbitrary scale, the temperature, in consequence, fell to  $\theta_2^\circ$  (or  $3.36^\circ$ ); the molecular weight of the substance,  $M$ , is then represented by the known formula

$$M = 1670 \frac{w}{w_1(\theta_1 - \theta_2)}; \text{ or, } M = 1670 \frac{.380}{14.01 \times .14} = 323,$$

or approximately  $2 \times 160$ . Now assume that the temperature readings may be  $\pm 0.05^\circ$  in error owing to convection currents, radiation and conduction of heat, etc. Let  $\theta_1^\circ = 3.55^\circ$  and  $\theta_2^\circ = 3.31^\circ$ ,

$$\therefore M = 1670 \frac{0.380}{14.01 \times 0.24} = 188.$$

This means that an error of  $\pm \frac{1}{2}^\circ$  in the reading of the thermometer would give a result positively misleading. This example is by no means exaggerated. The simultaneous determination of the heat of fusion and of the specific heat of a solid by the solution of two simultaneous equations, and the determination of the latent heat

of steam are specially liable to similar mistakes. A study of the reduction formula will show in every case that relatively small errors in the reading of the temperature are magnified into serious dimensions by the method used in the calculation of the final result.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Almost any text-book on optics will tell you that the radius of curvature,  $r$ , of a lens, is given by the formula

$$r = \frac{af}{f - a}.$$

Let the true values of  $f$  and  $a$  be respectively 20 and 15. Let  $f$  and  $a$  be liable to error to the extent of  $\pm 0.5$ , say,  $f$  is read 20.5, and  $a$  14.5. Then the true value of  $r$  is 60, the observed value 51.2. Fractional error =  $\frac{8.8}{60}$ . This means that an error of about 0.5 in 20, i.e., 2.5% in the determination of  $f$  and  $a$  may cause  $r$  to deviate 15% from the truth.

(2) In applying the formula

$$V = 8 \cdot e^{5000 \frac{T_1 - T_0}{T_1 T_0}},$$

for the influence of temperature on the velocity,  $V$ , of a chemical reaction show that an error of  $1^\circ$  in the determination of  $T_1$ , at about  $300^\circ$  abs., will give a fractional error of 2.4 in the determination of  $V$ . Hint. Substitute  $T_1 = 300$ ,  $T_0 = 273$ . Use Table IV. I make  $V = 41.52$ . Now put  $T_1 = 301$ . I get  $V = 43.79$ , etc. Hence an error of  $1^\circ$  will make  $V$  vary about 6% from its true value.

If we knew that an astronomer had made an absolute error of 100,000 miles in estimating the distance between the earth and the sun, and also that a physicist had made an absolute error of the  $\frac{1}{10000.000000}$ th of a mile in measuring the wave length of a spectral line, we could form no idea of the relative accuracy of the two measurements in spite of the fact that the one error is the  $\frac{1}{1000.000000.000000}$ th part of the other. In the first measurement the error is about  $\frac{1}{1.000}$  of the whole quantity measured, in the second case the error is about the same order of magnitude as the quantity measured. In the former case, therefore, the error is negligibly small; in the latter, the error renders the result nugatory.

It is therefore important to be able to recognise the weak and strong points of a given method of investigation; to grade the degree of accuracy of the different stages of the work so as to produce the required result; so as to have enough at all points, but no superfluity. I have already spoken of the need for "scientific perspective" in dealing with numerical computations.

EXAMPLES.—(1) It is required to determine the capacity of a sphere from

the measurement of its diameter. Let  $y$  denote the volume,  $x$  the diameter, then, by a well-known mensuration formula,  $y = \frac{1}{6}\pi x^3$ . It is required to find the effect of a small error in the measurement of the diameter on the calculated volume. Suppose an error  $dx$  is committed in the measurement, then

$$y + dy = \frac{1}{6}\pi(x + dx)^3 = \frac{1}{6}\pi\{x^3 + 3x^2dx + 3x(dx)^2 + (dx)^3\}.$$

By hypothesis,  $dx$  is a very small fraction, therefore, by neglecting the higher powers of  $dx$  and dividing the result by the original expression

$$\frac{y + dy}{y} = \frac{1}{6}\pi \left( \frac{x^3 + 3x^2dx}{\frac{1}{6}\pi x^3} \right); \quad \frac{dy}{y} = 3 \frac{dx}{x}.$$

Or, the error in the calculated result is three times that made in the measurement. Hence the necessity for extreme precautions in measuring the diameter. Sometimes, we shall find, it is not always necessary to be so careful. The same result could have been more easily obtained by the use of Taylor's theorem as described above. Differentiate the original expression and divide the result by the original expression. We thus get the relative error without trouble.

(2) Criticize the method for the determination of the atomic weight of lead from the ratio Pb : O in lead monoxide. Let  $y$  denote the atomic weight of lead,  $a$  the atomic weight of oxygen (known). It is found experimentally that  $x$  parts of lead combine with one part of oxygen, the required atomic weight of lead is determined from the simple proportion

$$y : a = x : 1; \text{ or, } y = ax; \text{ or, } dy = a dx; \therefore dy/y = dx/x. \quad (2)$$

Thus an error of 1 % in the determination of  $x$  introduces an equal error in the calculated value of  $y$ . Other things being equal, this method of finding the atomic weight of lead is, therefore, very likely to give good results.

(3) Show that the result of determining the atomic weight of barium by precipitation of the chloride with silver nitrate is less influenced by experimental errors than the determination of the atomic weight of sodium in the same way. Assume that one part of silver as nitrate requires  $x$  parts of sodium (or barium) chloride for precipitation as silver chloride. Let  $a$  and  $b$  be the known atomic weights of silver and chlorine. Then, if  $y$  denotes the atomic weight of sodium,  $y + b : a = x : 1$ ; or,  $y = ax - b$ ;  $\therefore a = (y + b)/x$ . Differentiate, and substitute  $y = 23$ ,  $b = 35.5$ .

$$\frac{dy}{y} = \frac{a}{ax - b} dx = \frac{y + b}{y} \cdot \frac{dx}{x} = 2.54 \frac{dx}{x},$$

or an error of 1 % in the determination of chlorine in sodium will introduce an error of 2.5 % in the atomic weight of sodium. Hence it is a disadvantage to have  $b$  greater than  $y$ . For barium, the error introduced is 1.5 % instead of 2.5 %.

(4) If the atomic weight of barium  $y$  is determined by the precipitation of barium sulphate from barium chloride solutions, and  $a$  denotes the known atomic weight of chlorine,  $b$  the known combining weight of  $\text{SO}_4$ , then when  $x$  parts of barium chloride are converted into one part of barium sulphate,

$$y + 2a : y + b = x : 1; \quad \frac{dy}{y} = \frac{(b - 2a)dx}{(1 - x)(bx - 2a)}.$$

(5) An approximation formula used in the determination of the viscosity of liquids is

$$\eta = \frac{\pi p t r^4}{8 v l},$$

where  $v$  denotes the volume of liquid flowing from a capillary tube of radius  $r$  and length  $l$  in the time  $t$ ;  $p$  is the actual pressure exerted by the column of liquid. Show that the proportional error in the calculation of the viscosity  $\eta$  is four times the error made in measuring the radius of the tube.

(6) In a tangent galvanometer, the tangent of the angle of deflection of the needle is proportional to the current. Prove that the proportional error in the calculated value of the current due to a given error in the reading is least when the deflection is  $45^\circ$ . The strength of the current is proportional to the tangent of the displaced angle  $x$ , or

$$y = f(x) = C \tan x; \therefore dy = \frac{C \cdot dx}{\cos^2 x}; \text{ or, } \frac{dy}{y} = \frac{dx}{\sin x \cdot \cos x}.$$

To determine the minimum, put

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{dy}{y} \right) = \frac{\sin^2 x - \cos^2 x}{\sin^2 x \cdot \cos^2 x} = 0; \therefore \sin^2 x = \cos^2 x, \text{ or, } \sin x = \cos x.$$

This is true only in the neighbourhood of  $45^\circ$  (Table XIV.), and, therefore, in this region an error of observation will have the least influence on the final result. In other words, the best results are obtained with a tangent galvanometer when the needle is deflected about  $45^\circ$ .

What will be the effect of an error of  $0.25^\circ$  in reading a deflection of  $42^\circ$ , on the calculated current? Note that  $x$  in the above formula is expressed in circular or radian measure (page 606). Hence,

$$0.25(\text{degrees}) = \frac{\pi \times 0.25}{180} = 0.00436(\text{radians}).$$

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{y} = \frac{dx}{\sin x \cdot \cos x} = \frac{2dx}{\sin 2x} = \frac{0.00872}{\sin 84^\circ} = 0.009; \text{ i.e., } 0.9\%,$$

since, from a Table of Natural Sines,  $\sin 84^\circ = 0.9945$ .

(7) Show that the proportional error involved in the measurement of an electrical resistance on a Wheatstone's bridge is least near the middle of the bridge. Let  $R$  denote the resistance,  $l$  the length of the bridge,  $x$  the distance of the telephone from one end.  $\therefore y = Rx/(l + x)$ . Proceed as above and show that when  $x = \frac{1}{2}l$  (the middle of the bridge), the proportional error is a minimum.

(8) By Newton's law of attraction, the force of gravitation,  $g$ , between two bodies varies directly as their respective masses— $m_1, m_2$ —and inversely as the square of their distance apart,  $r$ . The mass of each body is supposed to be collected at its centroid (centre of gravity). The weight of one gram at Paris is equivalent to 980.868 dynes. The dyne is the unit of force. Hence Newton's law,  $g = \mu m_1 m_2 / r^2$  (dynes), may be written  $w = a/r^2$  (grams), where  $a$  is a constant equivalent to  $\mu \times m_1 \times m_2 \times 980.868$ . Hence show that for small changes in altitude  $dw/w = -2dr/r$ . Marek was able to detect a difference of 1 in 500,000,000 when comparing the kilogram standards of the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures. Hence show that it is possible to detect a difference in the weight of a substance when one scale pan of the

balance is raised one centimetre higher than the other. Hint. Radius of earth =  $r = 637,130,000$  cm.;  $w = 1$  kilogram.;  $dr = 1$  cm.;

$$\therefore -\frac{dw}{w} = \frac{2}{637,130,000} = \frac{1}{318,565,000}. \text{ This is greater than } \frac{1}{500,000,000}.$$

As a further exercise, show that a kilogram will lose 0.00003 grm., if it be weighed 10 cm. above its original position. Hint. Find  $-dw$ ;  $r$  has its former value;  $w = 1000$  grm.;  $dr = 10$  cm.

*II. Proportional error of composite measurements.* Whenever a result has to be determined indirectly by combining several different species of measurements—weight, temperature, volume, electromotive force, etc.—the effect of a percentage error of, say, 1 per cent. in the reading of the thermometer will be quite different from the effect of an error of 1 per cent. in the reading of a voltmeter.

It is obvious that some observations must be made with greater care than others in order that the influence of each kind of measurement on the final result may be the same. If a large error is compounded with a small error, the total error is not appreciably affected by the smaller. Hence Ostwald recommends that “a variable error be neglected if it is less than one-tenth of the larger, often, indeed, if it is but one-fifth”.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Joule's relation between the strength of a current  $C$  (ampères) and the quantity of heat  $Q$  (calories) generated in an electric conductor of resistance  $R$  (ohms) in the time  $t$  (seconds), is,  $Q = 0.24C^2Rt$ . Show that  $R$  and  $t$  must be measured with half the precision of  $C$  in order to have the same influence on  $Q$ .

(2) What will be the fractional error in  $Q$  corresponding to a fractional error of 0.1 % in  $R$ ? Ansr. 0.001, or 0.1 %.

(3) What will be the percentage error in  $C$  corresponding to 0.02 % in  $Q$ ? Ansr. 0.01 %.

(4) If the density  $s$  of a substance be determined from its weights ( $w, w_1$ ) in air and water, and remembering that  $s = w_1/(w - w_1)$ , show that

$$\frac{ds}{s} = \frac{w}{w - w_1} \left( \frac{dw_1}{w_1} - \frac{dw}{w} \right).$$

(5) The specific heat of a substance determined by the method of mixtures is given by the formula

$$s = \frac{m_1 c (\theta_2 - \theta_1)}{m (\theta - \theta_2)},$$

where  $m$  is the weight of the substance before the experiment;  $m_1$  the weight of the water in the calorimeter;  $c$  the mean specific heat of water between  $\theta_2$  and  $\theta_1$ ;  $\theta$  is the temperature of the body before immersion;  $\theta_1$  the initial temperature reached by the water in the calorimeter;  $\theta_2$  the temperature of the system after equalization of the temperature has taken place. Supposing the water equivalent of the apparatus is included in  $m_1$ , what will be the effect of a small error in the determination of the different temperatures on the result?

First, error in  $\theta_1$ . Show that  $ds/s = -d\theta_1/(\theta_2 - \theta_1)$ . If an error of say  $0.1^\circ$  is made in a reading and  $\theta_2 - \theta_1 = 10^\circ$ , the error in the resulting specific heat is about 1%. If a maximum error of 0.01% is to be permitted, the temperature must be read to the  $0.0001^\circ$ .

Second, error in  $\theta$ . Show that  $ds/s = -d\theta/(\theta - \theta_2)$ . If a maximum error in the determination of  $s$  is to be 0.1%, when  $\theta - \theta_2 = 50^\circ$ ,  $\theta$  must be read to the  $0.05^\circ$ . If an error of  $0.1^\circ$  is made in reading the temperature and  $\theta - \theta_2 = 50^\circ$ , show that the resulting error in the specific heat will be 0.2%.

Third, error in  $\theta_2$ . Show that  $ds/s = d\theta_2/(\theta_2 - \theta_1) + d\theta_2/(\theta - \theta_2)$ . If the maximum error allowed is 0.1% and  $\theta_2 - \theta_1 = 10^\circ$ ,  $\theta - \theta_1 = 50^\circ$ , show that  $\theta_2$  must be read to the  $1\frac{1}{10}^\circ$ ; while if an error of  $0.1^\circ$  is made in the reading of  $\theta_2$ , show that the resulting error in the specific heat is 1.2%.

(6) In the preceding experiment, if  $m_1 = 100$  grams, show that the weighing need not be taken to more than the 0.1 gram for the error in  $s$  to be within 0.1%; and for  $m$ , need not be closer than 0.5 gram when  $m$  is about 50 grams.

Since the actual errors are proportional to the probable errors, the most probable or mean value of the total error  $du$ , is obtained from the expression

$$(du)^2 = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial a_1} da_1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial a_2} da_2\right)^2 + \dots, \quad (3)$$

from (16), § 162, page 530. Note the squared terms are all positive. Since the errors are fortuitous, there will be as many positive as negative paired terms. These will, in the long run, approximately neutralize each other. Hence (3).

EXAMPLES.—(1) Divide equation (3) by  $u^2$ , it is then easy to show that

$$\left(\frac{dQ}{Q}\right)^2 = 4\left(\frac{dC}{C}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dR}{R}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dt}{t}\right)^2,$$

from the preceding set of examples. Hence show that the fractional error in  $Q$ , corresponding to the fractional errors of 0.03 in  $C$ , 0.02 in  $R$  and 0.03 in  $t$ , is 0.07.

(2) The regular formula for the determination of molecular weight of a substance by the freezing point method, is  $M = Kw/\theta$ , where  $K$  is a constant,  $M$  the required molecular weight,  $w$  the weight of the substance dissolved in 100 grams of the solvent,  $\theta$  the lowering of the freezing point. In an actual determination,  $w = 0.5139$ ,  $\theta = 0.295$ ,  $K = 19$  (Perkin and Kipping's *Organic Chemistry*), what would be the effect on  $M$  of an error of 0.01 in the determination of  $w$ , and of an error of 0.01 in the determination of  $\theta$ ? Also show that an error of 0.01 in the determination of  $\theta$  affects  $M$  to an extent of  $-3.89$ , while an error of 0.01 in the determination of  $w$  only affects  $M$  to the extent of 0.94. Hence show that it is not necessary to weigh to more than 0.01 of a gram.

From (16), § 162, page 530, when the effect of each observation on the final result is the same, the partial differential coefficients

are all equal. If  $u$  denotes the sum of  $n$  observations,  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ .

$$u = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n; \therefore \frac{\partial u}{\partial a_1} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial a_2} = \dots = 1.$$

But, in order that the actual errors affecting each observation may be the same, we must have, from (17), page 530,

$$da_1 = da_2 = \dots = da_n = \frac{du}{\sqrt{n}}; \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

with the fractional errors :

$$\therefore \frac{da_1}{u} = \frac{da_2}{u} = \dots = \frac{da_n}{u} = \frac{du}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}. \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Suppose the greatest allowable fractional error in  $Q$  (preceding examples) is  $0.5\%$ , what is the greatest percentage error in each of the variables  $C, R, t$ , allowable under equal effects? Here,

$$2 \frac{dC}{C} = \frac{dR}{R} = \frac{dt}{t} = \frac{0.005}{\sqrt{8}}.$$

Ansr.  $0.22$  for  $R$  and  $t$ ; and  $0.11\%$  for  $C$ .

(2) If a volume  $v$  of a given liquid flows from a long capillary tube of radius  $r$  and length  $l$  in  $t$  seconds, the viscosity of the liquid is  $\eta = \pi p r^4 t / 8 v l$ , where  $p$  denotes the excess of the pressure at the outlet of the tube over atmospheric pressure. What would be the errors  $dr, dv, dl, dt, dp$ , necessary under equal effects to give  $\eta$  with a precision of  $0.1\%$ ? Here,

$$\frac{dp}{p} = \frac{dt}{t} = 4 \frac{dr}{r} = - \frac{dv}{v} = - \frac{dl}{l} = \frac{0.001}{\sqrt{5}} = 0.00045.$$

It is now necessary to know the numerical values of  $p, t, v, r, l$ , before  $dp, dt, \dots$  can be determined. Thus, if  $r$  is about  $2$  mm., the radius must be measured to the  $0.00022$  mm. for an error of  $0.1\%$  in  $\eta$ . It has been shown how the best working conditions may be determined by a study of the formula, to which the experimental results are to be referred. The following is a more complex example.

(3) The resistance  $X$  of a cell is to be measured. Let  $C_1, C_2$  respectively denote the currents produced by the cell when working through two known external resistances  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ , and let  $R_1, R_2$  be the total resistances of the circuit,  $E$  the electromotive force of the cell is constant. Your text-book on practical physics will tell you that

$$X = \frac{C_2 r_2 - C_1 r_1}{C_1 - C_2}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

What ratio  $C_1 : C_2$  will furnish the best result? As usual, by partial differentiation, (4) above,

$$(dX)^2 = \left( \frac{\partial X}{\partial C_1} dC_1 \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial X}{\partial C_2} dC_2 \right)^2. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

Find values for  $\partial X / \partial C_1$  and  $\partial X / \partial C_2$  from (6); and put  $R_1$  for  $r_1$ ;  $R_2$  for  $r_2$ . From Ohm's law,  $E = CR$ ,  $E$  being constant,  $C_1 : C_2 = R_2 : R_1$ . Thus

$$\frac{\partial X}{\partial C_1} = - \frac{C_2(r_2 - r_1)}{(C_1 - C_2)^2} = - \frac{R_1^2 R_2}{E(R_2 - R_1)}; \quad \frac{\partial X}{\partial C_2} = \frac{C_1(r_2 - r_1)}{(C_1 - C_2)^2} = \frac{R_1 R_2^2}{E(R_2 - R_1)}. \quad (8)$$

Substitute this result in (7).



(i) If a mirror galvanometer is used,  $dC_1 = dC_2 = dC$  (say) = constant.

$$\therefore (dX)^2 = \frac{(R_1^4 R_2^2 + R_1^2 R_2^4) (dC)^2}{E^2 (R_2 - R_1)^2} = \frac{R_1^4 (x^2 + x^4) (dC)^2}{E^2 (x - 1)^2}, \quad (9)$$

by substituting  $x = R_2 : R_1$ . For a minimum error, we have, by the usual method,

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{x^4 - x^2}{x^2 - 2x + 1} \right) = 0; \therefore x^3 - 2x^2 - 1 = 0; \therefore x = 2.2 \text{ approx.}$$

Or,  $R_2 = 2.2R_1$ ; or,  $C_1 = 2.2C_2$ , from Ohm's law. Substitute this value of  $x$  in (9), and we get

$$dX = \frac{\sqrt{20} R_1^2 \cdot dC_1}{E}, \quad (10)$$

which shows that the external resistance,  $R_1$ , should be as small as is consistent with the polarization of the battery.

(ii) If a tangent galvanometer is used,  $dC/C$  is constant. The above method will not work. Hence substitute  $C_1 = ER_1$  and  $C_2 = ER_2$  in the first of equations (8), we get

$$(dX)^2 = 2 \left( \frac{R_1 R_2}{R_2 - R_1} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{dC}{C} \right)^2; \quad dX = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\frac{1}{R_1} - \frac{1}{R_2}} \cdot \frac{dC}{C}. \quad (11)$$

From this it can be shown there is no best ratio  $R_2 : R_1$ . From the last expression we can see that the error  $dX$  decreases as  $R_1$  diminishes, and as  $R_2$  increases. Hence  $R_2$  should be made as large and  $R_1$  as small as is consistent with the range of the galvanometer and the polarization of the battery.

You can easily get the fractional errors in each case. From (10) and (11) respectively

$$\frac{dC_1}{C_1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{20}} \cdot \frac{X}{R_1} \cdot \frac{dX}{X}; \quad \frac{dC}{C} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{X}{R_1} \cdot \frac{dX}{X},$$

assuming in the latter case that  $C_1 : C_2 = 3 : 1$ ; so that the intermediate step from (11) is  $dX = \sqrt{2} \cdot 3R_1^2 / (3R_1 - R_1) \times dC/C$ .

## § 167. Observations of Different Degrees of Accuracy.

Hitherto it has been assumed that the individual observations of any particular series, are equally reliable, or that there is no reason why one observation should be preferred more than another. As a general rule, measurements made by different methods, by different observers, or even by the same observer at different times,<sup>1</sup> are not liable to the same errors. Some results

<sup>1</sup> I am reminded that Dumas, discussing the errors in his great work on the gravimetric composition of water, alluded to a few pages back, adds the remarks: "The length of time required for these operations compelled me to prolong the work far into the night, generally finishing with the weighings about 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning. This may be the cause of a substantial error, for I dare not venture to assert that such weighings deserve as much confidence as if they had been performed under more favourable conditions and by an observer not so worn out with fatigue, the inevitable result of fifteen to twenty hours continued attention."

are more trustworthy than others. In order to fix this idea, suppose that twelve determinations of the capacity of a flask by the same method, gave the following results : six measurements each 1·6 litres ; four, 1·4 litres ; and two, 1·2 litres. The numbers 6, 4, 2, represent the relative values of the three results 1·6, 1·4, 1·2, because the measurement 1·6 has cost three times as much labour as 1·2. The former result, therefore, is worth three times as much confidence as the latter. In such cases, it is customary to say that the relative practical value, or the weight of these three sets of observations, is as 6 : 4 : 2, or, what is the same thing, as 3 : 2 : 1. In this sense, the **weight** of an observation, or set of observations, represents the *relative* degree of precision of that observation in comparison with other observations of the same quantity. It tells us nothing about the *absolute* precision,  $h$ , of the observations.

It is shown below that the weight of an observation is, in theory, inversely as its probable error ; in practice, it is usual to assign arbitrary weights to the observations. For instance, if one observation is made under favourable conditions, another under adverse conditions, it would be absurd to place the two on the same footing. Accordingly, the observer pretends that the best observations have been made more frequently. That is to say, if the observations  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ , have weights  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ , respectively, the observer has assumed that the measurement  $a_1$  has been repeated  $p_1$  times with the result  $a_1$ , and that  $a_n$  has been repeated  $p_n$  times with the result  $a_n$ .

To take a concrete illustration, Morley<sup>1</sup> has made three accurate series of determinations of the density of oxygen gas with the following results :—

- I.  $1\cdot42879 \pm 0\cdot000034$  ; II.  $1\cdot42887 \pm 0\cdot000048$  ;  
 III.  $1\cdot42917 \pm 0\cdot000048$ .

The probable errors of these three means would indicate that the first series were worth more than the second. For experimental reasons, Morley preferred the last series, and gave it double weight. In other words, Morley pretended that he had made four series of experiments, two of which gave 1·42917, one gave 1·42879, and one

---

<sup>1</sup> E. Morley, "On the densities of oxygen and hydrogen and on the ratio of their atomic weights," *Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge*, No. 980, 55, 1895.

gave 1.42887. The result is that 1.42900, not 1.42894, is given as the best representative value of the density of oxygen gas.

The product of an observation or of an error with the weight of the observation, is called a **weighted observation** in the former case, and a **weighted error** in the other.

The practice of weighting observations is evidently open to some abuse. It is so very easy to be influenced rather by the differences of the results from one another, than by the intrinsic quality of the observation. This is a fatal mistake.

*I. The best value to represent a number of observations of equal weight, is their arithmetical mean.* If  $P$  denotes the most probable value of the observed magnitudes  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ , then  $P - a_1, P - a_2, \dots, P - a_n$ , represent the several errors in the  $n$  observations. From the principle of least squares these errors will be a minimum when

$$(P - a_1)^2 + (P - a_2)^2 + \dots + (P - a_n)^2 = \text{a minimum.}$$

Hence, from the regular method for finding minimum values,

$$P = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

or the best representative value of a given series of measurements of an unknown quantity, is an arithmetical mean of the  $n$  observations, provided that the measurements have the same degree of confidence.

*II. The best value to represent a number of observations of different weight, is obtained by multiplying each observation by its weight and dividing the sum of these products by the sum of their different weights.* With the same notation as before, let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  be the respective weights of the observations  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ . From the definition of weight, the quantity  $a_1$  may be considered as the mean of  $p_1$  observations of unit weight;  $a_2$  the mean of  $p_2$  observations of unit weight, etc. The observed quantities may, therefore, be resolved into a series of fictitious observations all of equal weight. Applying the preceding rule to each of the resolved observations, the total number of standard observations of unit weight will be  $p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_n$ ; the sum of the  $p_1$  standard observations of unit weight will be  $p_1 a_1$ ; the sum of  $p_2$  standard observations,  $p_2 a_2$ , etc. Hence, from (1), the most probable value of a series of observations of different weights is

$$P' = \frac{p_1 a_1 + p_2 a_2 + \dots + p_n a_n}{p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_n}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

Note the formal resemblance between this formula and that for finding the centre of gravity of a system of particles of different weights arranged in a straight line.

Weighted observations are, therefore, fictitious results treated as if they were real measurements of equal weight. With this convention, the value of  $P'$  in (2) is an arithmetical mean sometimes called the **general or probable mean**.

*III. The weight of an observation is inversely as the square of its probable error.* Let  $a$  be a set of observations whose probable error is  $R$  and whose weight is unity. Let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  and  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$  be the respective weights and probable errors of a series of observations  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ , of the same quantity. By definition of weight,  $a_1$  is equivalent to  $p_1$  observations of equal weight. From (17), page 530,

$$r_1 = \frac{R}{\sqrt{p_1}}; p_1 = \frac{R^2}{r_1^2}; p_2 = \frac{R^2}{r_2^2}; \dots \therefore p_1 : p_2 : p_3 \dots = \frac{1}{r_1^2} : \frac{1}{r_2^2} : \frac{1}{r_3^2} \dots \quad (3)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) If  $n$  observations have weights  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ , show that

$$R = \pm \frac{r_1}{\sqrt{\Sigma(p)}}. \quad \dots \dots \dots (4)$$

Differentiate (2) successively with respect to  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  and substitute the results in (16), page 530.

(2) Show that the mean error of a series of observations of weights,  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ , is

$$M = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(px^2)}{(n-1)\Sigma(p)}}.$$

Hint. Proceed as in § 161 but use  $px^2$  and  $pv^2$  in place of  $x^2$  and  $v^2$  respectively. If the sum of the weights of a series of observations is  $\Sigma(p) = 40$ , and the sum of the products of the weights of each observation with the square of its deviation from the mean of nine observations is  $\Sigma(px^2) = 0.3998$ , show that  $M = \pm 0.035$ .

(3) The probable errors of four series of observations are respectively 1.2, 0.8, 0.9, 1.1, what are the relative weights of the corresponding observations? Ansr. 7 : 16 : 11 : 8. Use (3).

(4) Determinations of the percentage amount of copper in a sample of malachite were made by a number of chemical students, with the following results: (1) 39.1; (2) 38.8, 38.7, 38.6; (3) 39.9, 39.1, 39.3; (4) 37.7, 37.9. If these analyses had an equal degree of confidence, the mean, 38.8, would best represent the percentage amount of copper in the ore—formula (1). But the analyses are not of equal value. The first was made by the teacher. To this we may assign an arbitrary weight 10. Sets (2) and (3) were made by two different students using the electrolytic process. Student (2) was more experienced than student (3), in consequence, we are led to assign to the former an arbitrary weight 6, to the latter, 4. Set (4) was made by a student precipitating the copper as  $\text{CuS}$ , roasting and weighing as  $\text{CuO}$ . The danger

of loss of CuS by oxidation to  $\text{CuSO}_4$  during washing, leads us to assign to this set of results an arbitrary weight 2. From these *assumptions*, show that 38.91 best represents the percentage amount of copper in the ore. For the sake of brevity use values above 37 in the calculation. From formula (2),  $\frac{84.0}{44} = 1.91$ . Add 37 for the general mean. It is unfortunate when so fantastic a method has to be used for calculating the most probable value of a "constant of Nature," because a redetermination is then urgently required.

(5) H. A. Rowland (*Proc. Amer. Acad.*, 15, 75, 1879) has made an exhaustive study of Joule's determinations of the mechanical equivalent of heat, and he believes that Joule's several values have the weights here appended in brackets: 442.8 (0); 427.5 (2); 426.8 (10); 428.7 (2); 429.1 (1); 428.0 (1); 425.8 (2); 428.0 (3); 427.1 (3); 426.0 (5); 422.7 (1); 426.3 (1). Hence Rowland concludes that 426.9 best represents the result of Joule's work. Verify this. Notice that Rowland rejects the number 442.8 by giving it zero weight.

(6) Encke gives the  $8.60816'' \pm 0.037$  as the value of the solar parallax; D. Gill gives  $8.802'' \pm 0.005$ . Hence the merit of Encke's work is to the merit of Gill's work, as  $(0.005)^2 : (0.037)^2 = 25 : 1369 = 1 : 54.76$ . Or £54.76 may be bet in favour of Gill's number against £1 in favour of Encke.

IV. To combine several arithmetical means each of which is affected with a known probable (or mean) error, into one general mean. One hundred parts of silver are equivalent to

49.5365	$\pm 0.013$	of $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ ,	according to Pelouze ;
49.523	$\pm 0.0055$	„	„ Marignac ;
49.5973	$\pm 0.0005$	„	„ Stas (1867) ;
49.5992	$\pm 0.00039$	„	„ Stas (1882),

where the first number represents the arithmetical mean of a series of experiments, the second number the corresponding probable error. How are we to find the best representative value of this series of observations? The first thing is to decide what weight shall be assigned to each result. Individual judgment on the "internal evidence" of the published details of the experiments is not always to be trusted. Nor is it fair to assign the greatest weight to the last two values simply because they are by Stas.

L. Meyer and K. Seubert, in a paper *Die Atomgewichte der Elemente, aus der Originalzahlen neu berechnet*, Leipzig, 1883, weighted each result according to the mass of material employed in the determination. They assumed that the magnitude of the errors of observation were inversely as the quantity of material treated. That is to say, an experiment made on 20 grams of material is supposed to be worth twice as much as one made on 10 grams. This seems to be a somewhat gratuitous assumption.

One way of treating this delicate question is to assign to each arithmetical mean a weight inversely as the square of its mean error. F. W. Clarke in his "Recalculation of the Atomic Weights," *Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections*, 1075, 1897, employed the probable error. Although this method of weighting did not suit Morley in the special case mentioned on page 549, Clarke considers it a safe, though not infallible guide. Let  $A, B, C, \dots$ , be the arithmetical mean of each series of experiments;  $a, b, c, \dots$ , the respective probable (or mean) errors, then, from (2),

$$\text{General Mean} = \frac{\frac{A}{a^2} + \frac{B}{b^2} + \frac{C}{c^2} + \dots}{\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} + \dots}; \quad (5)$$

$$\text{Probable Error} = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} + \dots}}. \quad (6)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) From the experimental results just quoted, show that the best value for the ratio

$$\text{Ag} : \text{NH}_4\text{Cl} \text{ is } 100 : 49.5983 \pm 0.00031.$$

Hint. Substitute  $A = 49.5365, a = 0.013; B = 49.523, b = 0.0055; C = 49.5973, c = 0.0005; D = 49.5992, d = 0.00039$ , in equations (5).

(2) The following numbers represent the most trustworthy results yet published for the atomic weight of gold ( $H=1$ ):  $195.605 \pm 0.0099; 195.711 \pm 0.0224; 195.808 \pm 0.0126; 195.624 \pm 0.0224; 195.896 \pm 0.0181; 195.770 \pm 0.0082$ . Hence show that the best representative value for this constant is  $196.743 \pm 0.0049$ .

(3) In three series of determinations of the vapour pressure of water vapour at  $0^\circ$  Regnault found the following numbers:

I. 4.54; 4.54; 4.52; 4.54; 4.52; 4.54; 4.52; 4.50; 4.50; 4.54.

II. 4.66; 4.67; 4.64; 4.62; 4.64; 4.66; 4.67; 4.66; 4.66.

III. 4.54; 4.54; 4.54; 4.58; 4.58; 4.57; 4.58.

Show that the best representative value of series I. is 4.526, with a probable error  $\pm 0.0105$ ; series II., 4.653, probable error  $\pm 0.0105$ ; series III., 4.561, probable error  $\pm 0.0127$ . The most probable value of the vapour pressure of aqueous vapour at  $0^\circ$  is, therefore, 4.582, with an equal chance of its possessing an error greater or less than 0.0064.

As a matter of fact the theory of probability is of little or no importance, when the constant, or systematic errors are greater than the accidental errors. Still further, this use of the probable error cannot be justified, even when the different series of experiments are only affected with accidental errors, because *the probable error only shows how UNIFORMLY an experimenter has*

conducted a certain process, and not how suitable that process is for the required purpose. In combining different sets of determinations it is still more unsatisfactory to calculate the probable error of the general mean by weighting the individual errors according to Clarke's criterion when the probable errors differ very considerably among themselves. For example, Clarke (*l.c.*, page 126) deduces the general mean  $136.315 \pm 0.0085$  for the atomic weight of barium from the following results :

$$136.271 \pm 0.0106; 136.390 \pm 0.0141; 135.600 \pm 0.2711;$$

$$136.563 \pm 0.0946.$$

The individual series here deviate from the general mean more than the magnitude of its probable error would lead us to suppose. The constant errors, in consequence, must be greater than the probable errors. In such a case as this, the computed probable error  $\pm 0.0085$  has no real meaning, and we can only conclude that the atomic weight of barium is, at its best, not known more accurately than to five units in the second decimal place.<sup>1</sup>

V. *Mean and probable errors of observations of different degrees of accuracy.* In a series of observations of unequal weight the mean and probable errors of a single observation of unit weight are respectively

$$m = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(pv^2)}{n-1}}; \text{ and } r = \pm 0.6745 \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(pv^2)}{n-1}}; \quad (7)$$

The mean of a series of observations of unequal weight has the respective mean and probable errors

$$M = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(pv^2)}{(n-1)\Sigma(p)}}; \text{ and } R = \pm 0.6745 \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(pv^2)}{(n-1)\Sigma(p)}}. \quad (8)$$

EXAMPLE.—An angle was measured under different conditions fourteen times. The observations all agreed in giving  $4^\circ 15'$ , but for seconds of arc the following values were obtained (the weight of each observation is given in brackets):  $45''.00$  (5);  $31''.25$  (4);  $42''.50$  (5);  $45''.00$  (3);  $37''.50$  (3);  $38''.33$  (3);  $27''.50$  (3);  $43''.33$  (3);  $40''.63$  (4);  $36''.25$  (2);  $42''.50$  (3);  $39''.17$  (3);  $45''.00$  (2);  $40''.83$  (3). Show that the mean error of a single observation of unit weight is  $\pm 9''.475$ , the mean error of the mean  $39''.78$  is  $1''.397$ . Hint.  $\Sigma(p) = 46$   $\Sigma(pv)^2 = 1167.03$ ;  $n = 14$ ;  $\Sigma(pa) = 1830.00$ .

The mean and probable errors of a single observation of weight  $p$  are respectively

$$m = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(pv^2)}{(n-1)p}}; \text{ and } r = \pm 0.6745 \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(pv^2)}{(n-1)p}}. \quad (9)$$

<sup>1</sup> W. Ostwald's critique on Clarke's work (*l.c.*) in the *Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 23, 187, 1897.



EXAMPLE.—In the preceding examples show that the mean error of an observation of weight (2) is  $\pm 6''\cdot70$ ; of weight (3) is  $\pm 5''\cdot47$ ; of weight (4)  $\pm 4''\cdot74$ ; and of weight (5)  $\pm 4''\cdot24$ .

VI. *The principle of least squares for observations of different degrees of precision* states that “the most probable values of the observed quantities are those for which the sum of the weighted squares of the errors is a minimum,” that is,

$$p_1^2 v_1^2 + p_2^2 v_2^2 + \dots + p_n^2 v_n^2 = \text{a minimum.}$$

An error  $v$  is the deviation of an observation from the arithmetical mean of  $n$  observations; a “weighted square” is the product of the weight,  $p$ , and the square of an error,  $v$ .

### § 168. Observations Limited by Conditions.

On adding up the results of an analysis, the total weight of the constituents ought to be equal to the weight of the substance itself; the three angles of a plane triangle must add up to exactly  $180^\circ$ ; the sum of the three triangles of a spherical triangle always equal  $180^\circ +$  the spherical excess; the sum of the angles of the normals on the faces of a crystal in the same plane must equal  $360^\circ$ . Measurements subject to restrictions of this nature, are said to be **conditioned observations**. The number of conditions to be satisfied is evidently less than the number of unknown quantities, *i.e.*, observations, otherwise the value of the unknown could be deduced from the conditions, without having recourse to measurement.

In practice, measurements do not come up to the required standard, the percentage constituents of a substance do not add up to 100; the angles of a triangle are either greater or less than  $180^\circ$ . Only in the ideal case of perfect accuracy are the conditions fulfilled. It is sometimes desirable to find the best representative values of a number of imperfect conditioned observations. The method to be employed is illustrated in the following examples.

EXAMPLES.—(1) The analysis of a compound gave the following results: 87.2 % of carbon, 44.1 % of hydrogen, 19.4 % of nitrogen. Assuming each determination is equally reliable, what is the best representative value of the percentage amount of each constituent? Let C, H, N, respectively denote the percentage amounts of carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen required, then  $C + H = 100 - N \equiv 100.0 - 19.4 = 80.6$ .  $\therefore 2C + H = 117.8$ ;  $C + 2H = 124.7$ . Solve the last two simultaneous equations in the usual way. Ansr.  $C = 36.97\%$ ;  $H = 43.86\%$ ;  $N = 19.17\%$ . Note that this result is quite independent of



any hypothesis as to the structure of matter. The chemical student will know a better way of correcting the analysis. This example will remind us how the atomic hypothesis introduces order into apparent chaos. Some analytical chemists before publishing their results, multiply or divide their percentage results to get them to add up to 100. In some cases, one constituent is left undetermined and then calculated by difference. Both practices are objectionable in exact work.

(2) The three angles of a triangle  $A, B, C$ , were measured with the result that  $A = 51^\circ$ ;  $B = 94^\circ 20'$ ;  $C = 34^\circ 56'$ . Show that the most probable values of the unknown angles are  $A = 51^\circ 56'$ ;  $B = 94^\circ 15'$ ;  $C = 34^\circ 49'$ .

(3) The angles between the normals on the faces of a cubic crystal were found to be respectively  $\alpha = 91^\circ 13'$ ;  $\beta = 89^\circ 47'$ ;  $\gamma = 91^\circ 15'$ ;  $\delta = 89^\circ 42'$ . What numbers best represent the values of the four angles? Ansr.  $\alpha = 90^\circ 43' 45''$ ;  $\beta = 89^\circ 17' 45''$ ;  $\gamma = 90^\circ 0' 45''$ ;  $\delta = 89^\circ 57' 45''$ .

(4) The three angles of a triangle furnish the respective observation equations:  $A = 36^\circ 25' 47''$ ;  $B = 90^\circ 36' 28''$ ;  $C = 52^\circ 57' 57''$ ; the equation of condition requires that  $A + B + C - 180^\circ = 0$ . Let  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , respectively denote the errors affecting  $A, B, C$ , then we must have

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = -12. \quad (1)$$

I. If the observations are equally trustworthy,  $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = k$ , say. Substitute this value of  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , in (1), and we get  $3k + 12 = 0$ ; or,  $k = -4$ ;

$$\therefore A = 36^\circ 25' 43''; B = 90^\circ 36' 24''; C = 52^\circ 57' 53''.$$

The formula for the mean error of each observation is

$$\pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(v^2)}{n - w + q}},$$

where  $w$  denotes the number of unknown quantities involved in the  $n$  observation equations;  $q$  denotes the number of equations of condition to be satisfied. Consequently the  $w$  unknown quantities reduce to  $w - q$  independent quantities.  $\Sigma(v^2)$  denotes the sum of the squares of the differences between the observed and calculated values of  $A, B, C$ . Hence, the mean error  $= \pm \sqrt{48} = \pm 6''.93$ .

II. If the observations have different weights. Let the respective weights of  $A, B, C$ , be  $p_1 = 4$ ;  $p_2 = 2$ ;  $p_3 = 3$ . It is customary to assume that the magnitude of the error affecting each observation will be inversely as its weight. (Perhaps the reader can demonstrate this principle for himself.) Instead of  $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = k$ , therefore, we write  $x_1 = \frac{1}{4}k$ ;  $x_2 = \frac{1}{2}k$ ;  $x_3 = \frac{1}{3}k$ . From (1), therefore,  $13k + 144 = 0$ ;  $k = -11.07$ ;  $x_1 = -2''.77$ ;  $x_2 = -5''.54$ ;  $x_3 = -3''.69$ .

$$m = \text{Mean error} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(pv^2)}{n - w + q}}.$$

or  $m = \pm 11.52$ . The mean errors  $m_1, m_2, m_3$ , respectively affecting  $a, b, c$ , are

$$m_1 = \pm \frac{m}{\sqrt{p}}; m_2 = \pm \frac{m}{\sqrt{p}}; m_3 = \pm \frac{m}{\sqrt{p}}.$$

Hence

$$A = 36^\circ 25' 44''.23 \pm 5''.76; B = 90^\circ 36' 22''.46 \pm 8''.15; C = 52^\circ 57' 53''.31 \pm 6''.65.$$

It is, of course, only permissible to reduce experimental data in

this manner when the measurements have to be used as the basis for subsequent calculations. In every case the actual measurements must be stated along with the "cooked" results.

### § 169. Gauss' Method of Solving a Set of Linear Observation Equations.

In continuation of § 108, page 328, let  $x, y, z$ , represent the unknowns to be evaluated, and let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, b_1, b_2, \dots, c_1, c_2, R_1, R_2, \dots$ , represent actual numbers whose values have been determined by the series of observations set forth in the following observation equations:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} a_1x + b_1y + c_1z &= R_1; \\ a_2x + b_2y + c_2z &= R_2; \\ a_3x + b_3y + c_3z &= R_3; \\ a_4x + b_4y + c_4z &= R_4. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

If only three equations had been given, we could easily calculate the corresponding values of  $x, y, z$ , by the methods of algebra, but these values would not necessarily satisfy the fourth equation. The problem here presented is to find the best possible values of  $x, y, z$ , which will satisfy the four given observation equations. We have selected four equations and three unknowns for the sake of simplicity and convenience. Any number may be included in the calculation. But sets involving more than three unknowns are comparatively rare. We also assume that the observation equations have the same degree of accuracy. If not, multiply each equation by the square root of its weight, as in example (3) below. This converts the equations into a set having the same degree of accuracy.

*I. To convert the observation equations into a set of normal equations solvable by ordinary algebraic processes.* Multiply the first equation by  $a_1$ , the second by  $a_2$ , the third by  $a_3$ , and the fourth by  $a_4$ . Add the four results. Treat the four equations in the same way with  $b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4$ , and with  $c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4$ . Now write, for the sake of brevity,

$$\begin{aligned} [aa]_1 &= a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2 + a_4^2; & [bb]_1 &= b_1^2 + b_2^2 + b_3^2 + b_4^2; \\ [ab]_1 &= a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + a_3b_3 + a_4b_4; & [ac]_1 &= a_1c_1 + a_2c_2 + a_3c_3 + a_4c_4; \\ [aR]_1 &= a_1R_1 + a_2R_2 + a_3R_3 + a_4R_4; & [bR]_1 &= b_1R_1 + b_2R_2 + b_3R_3 + b_4R_4; \end{aligned}$$

and likewise for  $[cc]_1, [bc]_1, [cR]_1$ . The resulting equations are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} [aa]_1 x + [ab]_1 y + [ac]_1 z &= [aR]_1; \\ [ab]_1 x + [bb]_1 y + [bc]_1 z &= [bR]_1; \\ [ac]_1 x + [bc]_1 y + [cc]_1 z &= [cR]_1. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (2)$$

These three equations are called **normal equations** (first set) in  $x, y, z$ .

*II. To solve the normal equations.* We can determine the values of  $x, y, z$ , from this set of simultaneous equations (2) by any method we please, determinants (§ 179), cross-multiplication, indeterminate multipliers, or by the method of substitution.<sup>1</sup> The last method is adopted here. Solve the first normal equation for  $x$ , thus

$$x = -\frac{[ab]_1}{[aa]_1}y - \frac{[ac]_1}{[aa]_1}z + \frac{[aR]_1}{[aa]_1}. \quad (3)$$

Substitute this value of  $x$  in the other two equations for a second set of normal equations in which the term containing  $x$  has disappeared.

$$\begin{aligned} \left( [bb]_1 - \frac{[ab]_1}{[aa]_1}[ab]_1 \right) y + \left( [bc]_1 - \frac{[ac]_1}{[aa]_1}[ab]_1 \right) z &= \left( [bR]_1 - \frac{[ab]_1}{[aa]_1}[aR]_1 \right); \\ \left( [bc]_1 - \frac{[ac]_1}{[aa]_1}[ab]_1 \right) y + \left( [cc]_1 - \frac{[ac]_1}{[aa]_1}[ac]_1 \right) z &= \left( [cR]_1 - \frac{[ac]_1}{[aa]_1}[aR]_1 \right). \end{aligned}$$

For the sake of simplicity, write

$$[bb]_2 = [bb]_1 - \frac{[ab]_1}{[aa]_1}[ab]_1; \quad [cc]_2 = [cc]_1 - \frac{[ac]_1}{[aa]_1}[ac]_1;$$

$$[bc]_2 = [bc]_1 - \frac{[ac]_1}{[aa]_1}[ab]_1;$$

$$[bR]_2 = [bR]_1 - \frac{[ab]_1}{[aa]_1}[aR]_1; \quad [cR]_2 = [cR]_1 - \frac{[ac]_1}{[aa]_1}[aR]_1;$$

The second set of normal equations may now be written:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} [bb]_2 y + [bc]_2 z &= [bR]_2; \\ [bc]_2 y + [cc]_2 z &= [cR]_2. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (4)$$

Solve the first of these equations for  $y$ ,

$$y = -\frac{[bc]_2}{[bb]_2}z + \frac{[bR]_2}{[bb]_2}. \quad (5)$$

Substitute this in the second of equations (4), and we get a third set of normal equations,

$$\left( [cc]_2 - \frac{[bc]_2}{[bb]_2}[bc]_2 \right) z = \left( [cR]_2 - \frac{[bc]_2}{[bb]_2}[bR]_2 \right),$$

<sup>1</sup> The equations cannot be solved if any two are identical, or can be made identical by multiplying through with a constant.

which may be abbreviated into  $[cc]_3 z = [cR]_3$ . Hence,

$$z = \frac{[cR]_3}{[cc]_3}. \quad (6)$$

$[bb]_2, [bc]_2, \dots, [cc]_3, \dots$  are called **auxiliaries**. Equations (3) (5), (7), collectively constitute a set of **elimination equations** :

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x &= -\frac{[ab]_1}{[aa]_1}y - \frac{[ac]_1}{[aa]_1}z + \frac{[aR]_1}{[aa]_1}; \\ y &= -\frac{[bc]_2}{[bb]_2}z + \frac{[bR]_2}{[bb]_2}; \\ z &= \frac{[cR]_3}{[cc]_3}. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (7)$$

The last equation gives the value of  $z$  directly; the second gives the value of  $y$  when  $z$  is known, and the first equation gives the value of  $x$  when the values of  $y$  and  $z$  are known.

Note the symmetry of the coefficients in the three sets of normal equations. Hence it is only necessary to compute the coefficients of the first equation in full. The coefficients of the first horizontal row and vertical column are identical. So also the second row and second column, etc. The formation and solution of the auxiliary equations is more tedious than difficult. Several schemes have been devised to lessen the labour of calculation as well as for testing the accuracy of the work. These we pass by.

*IV. The weights of the values of  $x, y, z$ .* Without entering into any theoretical discussion, the respective weights of  $z, y$ , and  $x$  are given by the expressions :

$$p_x = [cc]_3; \quad p_y = p_x \frac{[bb]_2}{[cc]_2}; \quad p_z = p_x \frac{[ca]_1 [bb]_2}{[cc]_1 [bb]_1 - [bc]_1^2}. \quad (8)$$

*III. The mean errors affecting the values of  $x, y, z$ .* Let

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 x + b_1 y + c_1 z - R_1 &= v_1; \\ a_2 x + b_2 y + c_2 z - R_2 &= v_2; \\ \dots &\dots \end{aligned}$$

Let  $M$  denote the mean error of any observed quantity of unit weight,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} M &= \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(v^2)}{n-w}} \text{ for equal weights;} \\ M &= \pm \sqrt{\frac{\Sigma(pv^2)}{n-w}} \text{ for unequal weights} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (9)$$

where  $n$  denotes the number of observation equations,  $w$  the number

of quantities  $x, y, z, \dots$ . Here  $w = 3, n = 4$ . Let  $M_x, M_y, M_z$ , respectively denote the mean errors respectively affecting  $x, y, z$ .

$$\therefore M_x = \pm \frac{M}{\sqrt{p_x}}; M_y = \pm \frac{M}{\sqrt{p_y}}; M_z = \pm \frac{M}{\sqrt{p_z}}. \quad (10)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the values of the constants  $a$  and  $b$  in the formula

$$y = a + bx, \quad (11)$$

from the following determinations of corresponding values of  $x$  and  $y$  :—

$$\begin{array}{cccc} y = 3.5, & 5.7 & 8.2 & 10.3, \dots; \\ x = 0, & 88 & 182, & 274, \dots \end{array}$$

We want to find the best numerical values of  $a$  and  $b$  in equation (11). Write  $x$  for  $a$ , and  $y$  for  $b$ , so as to keep the calculation in line with the preceding discussion. The first set of normal equations is obviously

$$[aa]_1 x + [ab]_1 y = [aR]_1; \text{ and } [ab]_1 x + [bb]_1 y = [bR]_1.$$

$$\therefore x = -\frac{[ab]_1}{[aa]_1} y + \frac{[aR]_1}{[aa]_1}; \therefore y = \frac{[bR]_1}{[bb]_2}.$$

Again,  $[aa]_1 = 4$ ;  $[bb]_1 = 115,944$ ;  $[ab]_1 = 544$ ;  $[aR]_1 = 27.7$ ;  $[bR]_1 = 4,816.2$ ;  $[bb]_2 = 4,853.67$ ;  $[bR]_2 = 115,951.4$ .  $x = 3.52475$ ;  $y = 0.02500$ ; or, reconvert-  
ing  $x$  into  $a$ , and  $y$  into  $b$ , (11) is to be written,

$$y = 3.525 + 0.025x.$$

a.	b.		Difference between Calculated and Observed.	Square of Difference between Calculated and Observed.
	Calculated.	Observed.		
0	3.525	3.5	+ 0.025	0.000625
88	5.725	5.7	+ 0.025	0.000625
182	8.075	8.2	- 0.125	0.015625
274	10.375	10.3	+ 0.075	0.005625
				0.0225

$$\therefore M = \pm 0.106.$$

Weight of  $b = p_y = [bb]_2 = 41,960$ ;  $M_b = \pm 0.106/\sqrt{41,960} = \pm 0.0004$ .

Weight of  $a = p_x = \frac{[aa]_1}{[bb]_1} = 1.5$ ;  $M_a = \pm 0.106/\sqrt{1.5} = \pm 0.087$ .

(2) The following equations were proposed by C. F. Gauss in his *Theoria motus corporum coelestium* (Hamburg, 1809; Gauss' *Werke*, 7, 240, 1871) to illustrate the above method:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x - y + 2z = 3; \quad 4x + y + 4z = 21; \\ 3x + 2y - 5z = 5; \quad -x + 3y + 3z = 14. \end{array} \right\} \quad (12)$$

Hence show that  $x = + 2.470$ ;  $y = + 3.551$ ;  $z = + 1.916$ ;  $\Sigma(v^2) = 0.0804$ ;  $M = \pm 284$ ;  $p_x = 246$ ;  $p_y = 136$ ;  $p_z = 539$ ;  $M_x = \pm 0.057$ ;  $M_y = \pm 0.077$ ;  $M_z = \pm 0.039$ . Hint. The first set of normal equations is

$$27x + 6y = 88; \quad 6x + 15y + z = 70; \quad y + 54z = 107.$$

(3) The following equations were also proposed by C. F. Gauss (*l.c.*) to illustrate his method of solution:  $x - y + 2z = 3$ , with weight 1;  $3x + 2y - 5z = 5$ ,

with weight 1;  $4x + y + 4z = 21$ , with weight 1;  $-2x + 6y + 6z = 28$ , with weight  $\frac{1}{2}$ . By the rule, multiply the last equation by  $\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  and we get set (12). Show that  $x = +2.47$  with a weight 24.6;  $y = +3.55$  with a weight 13.6; and  $z = +1.9$  with a weight 53.9. It only remains to substitute these values of  $x, y, z$ , in (14) to find the residuals  $v$ . Hence show that  $M = \pm 295$ . Proceed as before for  $M_x, M_y, M_z$ .

(4) The length,  $l$ , of a seconds pendulum at any latitude  $L$ , may be represented by A. C. Clairaut's equation:  $l = L_0 + A \sin^2 L$ , where  $L_0$  and  $A$  are constants to be evaluated from the following observations:

$$L = 0^\circ 0', \quad 18^\circ 27', \quad 48^\circ 24', \quad 58^\circ 15', \quad 67^\circ 4';$$

$$l = 0.990564, \quad 0.991150, \quad 0.993867, \quad 0.994589, \quad 0.995325.$$

Hence show that  $l = 0.990555 + 0.005679 \sin^2 L$ . Hint. The normal equations are,

$$x + 0.44765 y = 0.993099; \quad x + 0.70306 y = 0.994548.$$

(5) Hinds and Callum (*Journ. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 24, 848, 1902) represent their readings of the percentage strength,  $y$ , of a solution of iron with the photometric readings,  $x$ , of the intensity of transmitted light by the formula  $y(x + b) = a$ . The readings were

$$x = 3.8, \quad 4.3, \quad 4.7, \quad 5.3, \quad 6.0, \quad 6.7, \quad 7.4, \quad 8.1, \quad 8.7, \quad 9.7;$$

$$y \times 10^2 = 8.64, \quad 7.57, \quad 6.92, \quad 6.06, \quad 5.28, \quad 4.70, \quad 4.22, \quad 3.79, \quad 3.52, \quad 3.13.$$

The authors state that  $a = 0.2955$ ;  $b = 0.375$ . The probable error of one determination of  $y$  is given as 0.000034, or as 3 parts in 10,000,000. Use (9).

The above is based on the principle of least squares. A quicker method, not so exact, but accurate enough for most practical purposes, is due to Mayer. We can illustrate Mayer's method by equations (12).

First make all the coefficients of  $x$  positive, and add the results to form a new equation in  $x$ . Similarly for equations in  $y$  and  $z$ . We thus obtain,

$$9x - y - 2z = 15; \quad 5x + 7y = 37; \quad x + y + 14z = 33.$$

Solve this set of simultaneous equations by algebraic methods and we get  $x = 2.485$ ;  $y = 3.511$ ;  $z = 1.929$ . Compare these values of  $x, y, z$ , with the best representative values for these magnitudes obtained in Ex. (2), above.

V. *Errors affecting two or more dependent observations.* There is a tendency in computing atomic weights and other constants for all the errors to accumulate upon the constant last determined. The atomic weight of fluorine is obtained from the ratio:  $\text{CaF}_2 : \text{CaSO}_4$ . The calculation not only includes the experimental errors in the measurement of this ratio, but also the errors in the atomic weight determinations of calcium and sulphur. It has been pointed out by J. D. van der Plaats (*Compt. Rend.*, 116, 1362, 1893) that with sufficient experimental data the given ratio can be made to furnish

three atomic weights over which the errors of observation are equally distributed, and not accumulated upon a single factor. F. W. Clarke (*Amer. Chem. Journ.*, 27, 32, 1902) illustrates the method by calculating the seven atomic weights: silver, chlorine, bromine, iodine, nitrogen, sodium and potassium—given  $O = 16$ ;  $H = 1.0079$ —from thirty ratios arranged in the form of thirty linear equations, thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ag} : \text{Br} &= 100 : 74.080; \therefore 100 \text{ Br} = 74.080 \text{ Ag}; \\ \text{KClO}_3 : \text{O}_3 &= 100 : 39.154; \therefore 39.154 \text{ K} + 39.154 \text{ Cl} = 2920.608; \\ &\dots \qquad \dots \qquad \dots \qquad \dots \end{aligned}$$

These thirty linear equations are reduced to seven normal equations as indicated above. By solving these, the atomic weights of the seven elements are obtained with the errors of observation evenly distributed among them according to the method of least squares.

When two observed quantities are afflicted with errors of observation and it is required to find the most probable relation between the quantities concerned, we can proceed as indicated in the following method. The observed quantities are, say,

$$\begin{array}{cccc} y = 0.5, & 0.8, & 1.0, & 1.2; \\ x = 0.4, & 0.6, & 0.8, & 0.9, \end{array}$$

and we want to find the best representative values for  $a$  and  $b$  in the equation

$$y = ax + b.$$

You can get approximate values for  $a$  and  $b$  by the graphic method of page 355; or, take any two of the four observation equations and solve for  $a$  and  $b$ . Thus, taking the first and third,

$$0.5 = 0.4a + b; \quad 1.0 = 0.8a + b; \therefore a = 1.25; \quad b = 0.$$

Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be the corrections required to make these values satisfy the conditions of the problem in hand. The required equation is, therefore,

$$y = (1.25 + \alpha)x + \beta.$$

Insert the observed values of  $x$  and  $y$ , so as to form the four observation equations:

$$\begin{aligned} 0.5 &= (1.25 + \alpha)0.4 + \beta; \quad 1.0 = (1.25 + \alpha)0.8 + \beta; \\ 0.8 &= (1.25 + \alpha)0.6 + \beta; \quad 1.2 = (1.25 + \alpha)0.9 + \beta; \end{aligned}$$

From these we get the two normal equations

$$0.1250 = 2.70\alpha + 4.0\beta; 0.0975 = 1.97\alpha + 2.7\beta.$$

$$\therefore \alpha = + 0.089; \beta = - 0.029.$$

And finally

$$\alpha = 1.25 + 0.089 = + 1.339; b = 0.000 - 0.029 = - 0.029.$$

The best representative equation for the above observations is therefore,

$$y = 1.339x - 0.029.$$

See A. F. Ravenshear, *Nature*, 63, 489, 1901. The above method is given by M. Merriman in *A Textbook on the Method of Least Squares*, New York, 127, 1891; W. H. Keesom has given a more general method in the *Communications from the Physical Laboratory at the University of Leiden*, Suppl. No. 4, 1902.

### § 170. When to Reject Suspected Observations.

There can be no question about the rejection of observations which include some mistake, such as a wrong reading of the eudiometer or burette, a mistake in adding up the weights, or a blunder in the arithmetical work, provided the mistake can be detected by check observations or calculations. Sometimes a most exhaustive search will fail to reveal any reason why some results diverge in an unusual and unexpected manner from the others. It has long been a vexed question how to deal with abnormal errors in a set of observations, for these can only be conscientiously rejected when the mistake is perfectly obvious. It would be a dangerous thing to permit an inexperienced or biassed worker to exclude some of his observations simply because they do not fit in with the majority. "Above all things," said S. W. Holman in his *Discussion on the Precision of Measurements*, New York, 1901, "the integrity of the observer must be beyond question if he would have his results carry any weight and it is in the matter of the rejection of doubtful or discordant observations that his integrity in scientific or technical work meets its first test. It is of hardly less importance that he should be as far as possible free from bias due either to preconceived opinions or to unconscious efforts to obtain concordant results."

Several criteria have been suggested to guide the investigator in deciding whether doubtful observations shall be included in the mean. Such criteria have been deduced by W. Chauvenet, Hagen, Stone, Pierce, etc. None of these tests however is altogether satisfactory. **Chauvenet's criterion** is perhaps the simplest to



understand and most convenient to use. It is an attempt to show, from the theory of probability, that reliable observations will not deviate from the arithmetical mean beyond certain limits.

We have learned from (2) and (6), page 523,

$$r = \frac{0.4769}{h} = 0.6745 \sqrt{\frac{\sum(v^2)}{n-1}}$$

If  $x = rt$ , where  $rt$  represents the number of errors less than  $x$  which may be expected to occur in an extended series of observations when the total number of observations is taken as unity,  $r$  represents the probable error of a single observation. Any measurement containing an error greater than  $x$  is to be rejected. If  $n$  denotes the number of observations and also the number of errors, then  $nP$  indicates the number of errors less than  $rt$ , and  $n(1 - P)$  the number of errors greater than the limit  $rt$ . If this number is less than  $\frac{1}{2}$ , any error  $rt$  will have a greater probability against than for it, and, therefore, may be rejected.

The criterion for the rejection of a doubtful observation is, therefore,

$$\frac{x}{r} = t; \frac{1}{2} = n(1 - P); \therefore P = \frac{2n - 1}{2n} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^t e^{-t^2} dt. \quad (1)$$

By a successive application of these formulæ, two or more doubtful results may be tested. The value of  $t$ , or, what is the same thing, of  $P$ , and hence also of  $n$ , can be read off from the table of integrals, page 622 (Table XI.). Table XII. contains the numerical value of  $x/r$  corresponding to different values of  $n$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) The result of 13 determinations of the atomic weight of oxygen made by the same observer is shown in the first column of the subjoined table. Should 19.81 be rejected? Calculate the other two columns of the table in the usual way.

Observation.	$x$ .	$x^2$ .	Observation.	$x$ .	$x^2$ .
15.96	-0.26	0.0676	15.88	-0.34	0.1156
19.81	+3.59	12.8881	15.86	-0.36	0.1296
15.95	-0.27	0.0729	16.01	-0.21	0.0441
15.95	-0.27	0.0729	15.96	-0.26	0.0676
15.91	-0.31	0.0961	15.88	-0.34	0.1156
15.88	-0.34	0.1156	15.93	-0.29	0.0841
15.91	-0.31	0.0961			
Mean of 13 observations = 16.22; $\sum(x^2) = 13.9659$ .					

The deviation of the suspected observation from the mean, is 3.59. By Chauvenet's criterion, probable error =  $r = 0.7281$ ,  $n = 13$ . From Table XII.,  $x/r = 3.07$ ,  $\therefore x = 3.07 \times 0.7281 = 22.7$ . Since the observation 19.81 deviates from the mean more than the limit 22.7 allowed by Chauvenet's criterion, that observation must be rejected.

(2) Should 16.01 be rejected from the preceding set of observations? Treat the twelve remaining after the rejection of 19.81 exactly as above.

(3) Should the observations 0.8902 and 0.8840 in F. Rudberg's results, page 527, be retained?

(4) Do you think 203.666 in W. Crookes' data, page 531, is affected by some "mistake"?

(5) Would H. A. Rowland have rejected the "442.8" result in Joule's work, page 552, if he had been solely guided by W. Chauvenet's criterion?

(6) Some think that "4.88" in Cavendish's data, page 527, is a mistake. Would you reject this number if guided by the above criterion?

These examples are given to illustrate the method of applying the criterion. Nothing more. Any attempt to establish an arbitrary criterion applicable to all cases, by eliminating the knowledge of the investigator, must prove unsatisfactory. It is very questionable if there can be a better guide than the unbiassed judgment and common sense of the investigator himself. The theory you will remember is only "common sense reduced to arithmetic".

Any observation set aside by reason of its failure to comply with any test should always be recorded. As a matter of fact, the rare occurrence of abnormal results serves only to strengthen the theory of errors developed from the empirical formula,  $y = ke^{-x^2/2}$ . There can be no doubt that as many positive as negative chance deviations would appear if a sufficient number of measurements were available.<sup>1</sup> "Every observation," says C. L. Gerling in his *Die Ausgleichungs-Rechnungen der praktischen Geometrie*, Hamburg, 68, 1843, "suspected by the observer is to me a witness of its truth. He has no more right to suppress its evidence under the pretence that it vitiates the other observations than he has to shape it into conformity with the majority." The whole theory of errors is founded on the supposition that a sufficiently large number of observations has been made to locate the errors to which the measurements are susceptible. When this condition is not fulfilled, the abnormal measurement, if allowed to remain, would exercise a disproportionate influence on the mean. The result

---

<sup>1</sup> F. Y. Edgeworth has an interesting paper "On Discordant Observations" in the *Phil. Mag.* [5], 23, 364, 1887.

would then be less accurate than if the abnormal deviation had been rejected. *The employment of the above criterion is, therefore, permitted solely because of the narrow limit to the number of observations.* It is true that some good observations may be so lost, but that is the price paid to get rid of serious mistakes.

It is perhaps needless to point out that a suspected observation may ultimately prove to be a real exception requiring further research. To ignore such a result is to reject the clue to a new truth. The trouble Lord Rayleigh recently had with the density of nitrogen prepared from ammonia is now history. The "ammonia" nitrogen was found to be  $\frac{1}{1,000}$ th part lighter than that obtained from atmospheric air. Instead of putting this minute "error" on one side as a "suspect," Lord Rayleigh persistently emphasized the discrepancy, and thus opened the way for the brilliant work of W. Ramsay and M. W. Travers on "Argon and Its Companions".

## CHAPTER X.

### THE CALCULUS OF VARIATIONS.

"Natura operatur per modos faciliores et expeditiones."—P. DE FERMAT.<sup>1</sup>

#### § 171. Differentials and Variations.

Nearly two hundred years ago Maupertius tried to show that the principle of least action was one which best exhibited the wisdom of the Creator, and ever since that time the fact that a great many natural processes exhibit maximum or minimum qualities has attracted the attention of natural philosophers. In dealing with the available energy of chemical and physical phenomena, for example, the chemist seeks to find those conditions which make the entropy a maximum, or the free energy a minimum, while if the problems are treated by the methods of energetics, Hamilton's principle :

"If a system of bodies is at  $A$  at the time  $t_1$ , and at  $B$  at the time  $t_2$ , it will pass from  $A$  to  $B$  by such a path that the mean value of the difference between the kinetic and potential energy of the system in the interval  $t_2 - t_1$  is a minimum "

is used. Problems of this nature often require a more powerful mathematical tool than the differential calculus. The so-called calculus of variations is used.

If it be required to draw a curve of a certain fixed length from  $O$  to  $A$  (Fig. 173) so that the area bounded by  $OB$ ,  $BA$ , and the curve may be a maximum. The inquiry is directed to the nature of the curve itself. In other words, we want the equation of the curve. This is a very different kind of problem from those

---

<sup>1</sup> "Nature works by the easiest and readiest means."—P. de Fermat in a letter to M. de la Chambre, 1662.

hitherto considered where we have sought what special values must be assigned to certain variables in a given expression in order that this function may attain a maximum or minimum value.

Whatever be the equation of the curve, we know that the area must be furnished by the integral  $\int y dx$ ; or  $\int f(x) dx$ . The problem now before us is to find what must be the form of  $f(x)$  in order that this integral may be a maximum. It is easy to see that if the form of the function  $y = f(x)$  is variable, the value of  $y$  can change infinitesimally in two ways, either

(i) By an increment in the value of the independent variable  $x$ ; or

(ii) By a change in the form of the function as it passes from the shape  $f(x)$  to, say, the shape  $\phi(x)$ ; or, to be more explicit, say from  $y = \sin x$  to, say,  $y = \tan x$ .

The first change is represented by the ordinary differential  $dy$ ; the second change is called a **variation**, and is symbolized, in Lagrange's notation, by  $\delta y$ . Consequently, the differential

$$dy = f(x + dx) - f(x);$$

while the variation

$$\delta y = \phi(x) - f(x). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

Care must be taken that the symbol " $\delta$ " is only applied to those

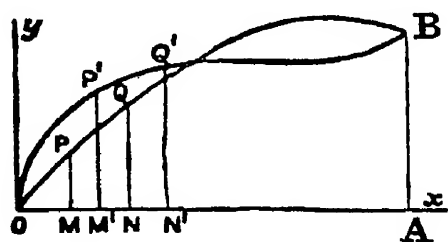


FIG. 173.

measurements which are produced by a change in the *form* of the function. The change,  $dy$ , is represented in Fig. 173 by  $dy = NQ - MP$ ; the change  $\delta y$  by  $\delta y = M'P' - MP$ ;  $dx = MN$ ;  $\delta x = MM'$ . It is not difficult to show from the above diagram that the symbols of differentiation and variation are interchangeable, so that

$$d\delta y = \delta dy. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

### § 172. The Variation of a Function.

To find the variation—not the differential—of a function. Let  $y$  be the given function. Write  $y + \delta y$  in place of  $y$ , and subtract the new function from the old, and there you have it. We at once recognize the formal analogy of the operation with the process of differentiation. Thus, if

$$u = y^n,$$

the variation of  $u$  is

$$\delta u = (y + \delta y)^n - y^n = \frac{du}{dy} \delta y, \quad (3)$$

by Taylor's theorem, neglecting the higher order of infinitesimals. Let us adopt Newton's notation, and write  $\dot{y}$  for  $dy/dx$ ;  $\ddot{y}$  for  $d^2y/dx^2$ ; ..., then, if

$$u = f(y, \dot{y}),$$

when  $y$  changes to  $y + \delta y$ ,  $\dot{y}$  becomes  $\dot{y} + \delta \dot{y}$ . Accordingly

$$\delta u = \frac{du}{dy} \delta y + \frac{du}{d\dot{y}} \delta \dot{y}; \text{ or, } \delta u = \frac{du}{dy} \delta y + \frac{du}{d\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)} \delta\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right), \quad (4)$$

by the extension of Taylor's theorem, neglecting the higher powers of small magnitudes. You will remember that " $\delta$ ," on page 19, was used to represent a small finite change in the value of the independent variable, while here " $\delta$ " denotes an infinitesimal change in the form of the function.

To evaluate  $\delta \dot{y}$ ,  $\delta \ddot{y}$ ,  $\delta \dddot{y}$  you follow exactly the same methods.

$$\delta \dot{y} = \delta\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right) = \frac{d(y + \delta y)}{dx} - \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d\delta y}{dx}; \quad \delta \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{d^2\delta y}{dx^2}; \dots \quad (5)$$

So far as I know the verb "to variate" or "to vary," meaning to find the variation of a function in the same way that "to differentiate" means to find the differential of a function, is not used.

### § 173. The Variation of an Integral with Fixed Limits.

Let it be required to find the variation of the integral

$$U = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} V \cdot dx \quad (6)$$

where

$$V = f\left(x, y, \frac{dy}{dx}, \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}, \dots\right); \text{ or, } V = f(x, y, \dot{y}, \ddot{y}, \dots). \quad (7)$$

The value of  $U$  may be altered either by

- (i) A change in the limits  $x_1$  and  $x_0$ ; or,
- (ii) A change in the form of the function.

We have already seen that if the end values of the integral are fixed, any change in the independent variable  $x$  does not affect the value of  $U$ . Let us assume that the limits are fixed or constant. The only way that the value of  $U$  can now change is to change the form of  $V = f(\dots)$ . But the variation of  $V$  is  $\delta V$ , and, by the above-mentioned rule,

$$\delta V = \frac{dV}{dy} \delta y + \frac{dV}{d\dot{y}} \delta \dot{y} + \frac{dV}{d\ddot{y}} \delta \ddot{y} + \dots \quad (8)$$

For the sake of brevity, let us put

$$P = \frac{dV}{dy}; \quad Q = \frac{dV}{d\dot{y}}; \quad R = \frac{dV}{d\ddot{y}}; \dots \quad (9)$$

and we get

$$\delta U = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \delta V \cdot dx = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \left( P \delta y + Q \frac{d\delta y}{dx} + R \frac{d^2 \delta y}{dx^2} + \dots \right) dx. \quad (10)$$

Let us now integrate term by term. We know of old (A), page 205, that

$$\left| u \frac{dv}{dx} dx = uv - \left| v \frac{du}{dx} dx, \right.$$

so that if we put  $Q = u$ ;  $dQ = du$ ;  $d\delta y = dv$ ;  $v = y$ , then

$$\int Q \frac{d\delta y}{dx} dx = Q \delta y - \int \frac{dQ}{dx} \delta y dx;$$

similarly, by a double application of the method of integration by parts, we find that

$$\int R \frac{d^2 \delta y}{dx^2} dx = R \frac{d\delta y}{dx} - \int \frac{dR}{dx} \cdot \frac{d\delta y}{dx} dx = R \frac{d\delta y}{dx} - \frac{dR}{dx} \delta y + \int \frac{d^2 R}{dx^2} \delta y dx,$$

and consequently, after substituting the last two results in (10), we get

$$\delta U = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \left( P - \frac{dQ}{dx} + \frac{d^2 R}{dx^2} \right) \delta y dx + \left[ Q - \frac{dR}{dx} \right] \delta y + \int_{x_0}^{x_1} R \frac{d\delta y}{dx}. \quad (11)$$

The last two terms do not involve any integrations, and depend upon the form of the function only. Let  $I_0$  represent the aggregate of terms formed when  $x_0$  is put for  $x$ ; and  $I_1$  the aggregate of terms when  $x_1$  is put for  $x$ ; then (11) assumes the form

$$\delta U = I_1 - I_0 + \int_{x_0}^{x_1} K \delta y dx, \quad (12)$$

where  $K$  has been put in place of the series

$$K = P - \frac{dQ}{dx} + \frac{d^2 R}{dx^2}. \quad (13)$$

The variation when the function  $V$  includes higher derivatives than  $\ddot{y}$ , is found in a similar manner.

## § 174. Maximum or Minimum Values of a Definite Integral.

Perhaps the most important application of the calculus of variations is the determination of the form of the function involved in a definite integral in such a manner that the integral, say,

$$U = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} V \cdot dx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (14)$$

shall have a maximum or a minimum value. In order to find a maximum or a minimum value of a function, we must find such a value of  $x$  that a small change in the value of  $x$  will produce a change in the value of the function which is indefinitely small in comparison with the value of  $x$  itself. We must have

$$\delta U = 0; \text{ and } I_1 - I_0 + \int_{x_0}^{x_1} K \delta y dx = 0. \quad . \quad (15)$$

This requires that

$$I_1 - I_0 = 0; \text{ and } \int_{x_0}^{x_1} K \delta y dx = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad (16)$$

for if each member did not vanish, each would be determined by the value of the other. Since  $\delta y$  is arbitrary, the second condition can only be satisfied by making

$$K = 0; \text{ or, } P - \frac{dQ}{dx} + \frac{d^2R}{dx^2} - \dots = 0. \quad . \quad (17)$$

Most of your troubles in connection with this branch of the calculus of variations will arise from this equation. It is often very refractory; sometimes it proves too much for us. The equation then remains unsolved. The nature of the problem will often show directly, without any further trouble, whether it be a maximum or a minimum value of the function we are dealing with; if not, the sign of the second differential coefficients must be examined. The second derivative is positive, if the function is a minimum; and negative, if the function is a maximum. But you will have to look up some text-book for particulars, say B. Williamson's *Integral Calculus*, London, 463, 1896.

EXAMPLES.—(1) What is the shortest line between two points? A straight line of course. But let us see what the calculus of variations has to say about this. The length of a curve between two points whose abscissæ are  $x_1$  and  $x_0$ , is, page 246,

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (18)$$

This must be a minimum. Here  $V$  is a function of  $y$ . Hence all the terms except  $dQ/dx$  vanish from (17), and we get

$$\frac{dQ}{dx} = 0; \text{ or, } Q = C, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (19)$$

where  $C$  is constant. But, by definition (9),

$$Q = \frac{dV}{dy} = \frac{y}{\sqrt{1+y^2}} = C, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (20)$$



since  $V = \sqrt{1 + \dot{y}^2}$ ;  $\therefore dV = (1 + \dot{y}^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \dot{y} \cdot d\dot{y}$ . Accordingly,

$$y = (1 + \dot{y}^2)C^2; \therefore \dot{y}^2(1 - C^2) = 1; \therefore \dot{y} = a, \quad (21)$$

where  $a$  must be constant, since  $C$  is constant. Hence, by integrating  $\dot{y} = a$ , we get

$$y = ax + b, \quad (22)$$

where  $b$  is the constant of integration. The required curve is therefore a straight line (8), page 90. Again, from (16) and (20),

$$I_1 - I_0 = \frac{y_1}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{y}_1^2}} \delta y_1 - \frac{y_0}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{y}_0^2}} \delta y_0. \quad (23)$$

If the two given points are fixed,  $\delta y_1 = 0$ , and  $\delta y_0 = 0$ , hence  $I_1 - I_0$  vanishes. Let  $x_0, y_0$ , and  $x_1, y_1$ , be the two fixed points. Then,

$$y_0 = ax_0 + b; y_1 = ax_1 + b. \quad (24)$$

If only  $x_0$ , and  $x_1$  are given, so that  $y_0$  and  $y_1$  are undetermined, we have, by the differentiation of (24),  $\dot{y}_1 = a$ . Hence, by substitution in (23),

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = a; \therefore \frac{a}{\sqrt{1 - a^2}} (\delta y_1 - \delta y_0) = 0, \quad (25)$$

Since  $\delta y$  and  $\delta y$  are arbitrary, (25) can only be satisfied when  $a = 0$ . The straight line is then  $y = b$ . This expresses the obvious fact that when two straight lines are parallel, the shortest distance between them is obtained by drawing a straight line perpendicular to both.

(2) To find the "curve of quickest descent" from one given point to another. Or, as Todhunter puts it, "suppose an indefinitely thin smooth tube connects the two points, and a heavy particle to slide down this tube; we require to know the form of the tube in order that the time of descent may be a minimum". This problem, called the *brachistochrone* (*brachistos*=shortest; *chronos*=time), was first proposed by John Bernoulli in June, 1696, and the discussion which it invoked has given rise to the calculus of variations. Any book on mechanics will tell you that the velocity of a body which starts from rest is, page 376, Ex. (4),

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \sqrt{2gy}, \quad (26)$$

where the axis  $y$  is measured vertically downwards, and the  $x$ -axis starts from the upper given part. The time of descent is therefore

$$t = \int \frac{ds}{\sqrt{2gy}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2g}} \int \sqrt{\frac{1 + \dot{y}^2}{y}} dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2g}} \int V \cdot dx, \quad (27)$$

as you will see by glancing at page 569, (6). Accordingly, we take

$$V = \sqrt{\frac{1 + \dot{y}^2}{y}}, \quad (28)$$

so that  $V$  only involves  $y$  and  $\dot{y}$ . Hence, for a minimum, we have

$$P - \frac{dQ}{dx} = 0; \text{ or, } \frac{dV}{dy} - \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{dV}{d\dot{y}} \right) = 0. \quad (29)$$

When  $V$  does not contain  $x$  explicitly, the complete differential of the function

$$V = f(y, \dot{y}, \ddot{y}, \dots), \quad (30)$$

is evidently

$$\frac{dV}{dx} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial \dot{y}} \cdot \frac{d\dot{y}}{dx} + \dots = P \frac{dy}{dx} + Q \frac{d\dot{y}}{dx} + R \frac{d\ddot{y}}{dx} + \dots, \quad (31)$$

as indicated on page 72. Multiply (17) through with  $dy/dx$ , and subtract the result from (31). The  $P$  terms vanish, and

$$\frac{dV}{dx} = \left( \frac{dQ}{dx} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} + Q \frac{d\dot{y}}{dx} \right) - \left( \frac{d^2R}{dx^2} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} \right) - R \frac{dy}{dx} + \dots,$$

remains. This may be written more concisely,

$$\frac{dV}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( Q \frac{dy}{dx} \right) - \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{dR}{dx} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} - R \dot{y} \right) +$$

which becomes, on integration,

$$V = Q \frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{dR}{dx} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} - R \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \dots + C, \quad (32)$$

where  $C$  is the constant of integration. Particular cases occur when  $P$ ,  $Q$ , or  $R$  vanish. The most useful case occurs, as here, when  $V$  involves only  $y$  and  $\dot{y}$ . In that case, (29) reduces to

$$V = Q \frac{dy}{dx} + C. \quad (33)$$

From (28) we get

$$V = \sqrt{\frac{1 + \dot{y}^2}{y}} = \frac{\dot{y}^2}{\sqrt{y(1 + \dot{y}^2)}} + C; \therefore \frac{1}{\sqrt{y(1 + \dot{y}^2)}} = C; \quad (34)$$

Consequently,

$$y(1 + \dot{y}^2) = \text{constant, say} = 2a. \quad (35)$$

$$\therefore \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 = \frac{2a - y}{y}; \therefore \frac{dx}{dy} = \left( \frac{y}{2a - y} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{y}{\sqrt{2ay - y^2}}. \quad (36)$$

On integration, using (17), page 193,

$$x = a \text{ vers } - \frac{y}{a} - \sqrt{2y - y^2} + b, \quad (37)$$

where  $b$  is an integration constant. This is the well-known equation called the *cycloid* (Fig. 174). The base of the cycloid is the  $x$ -axis, and the curve meets the base at a distance  $b$ , or,  $Ox$ ,

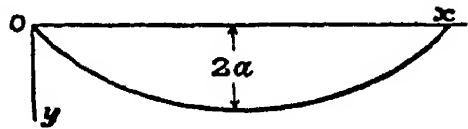


FIG. 174.

Fig. 174, from the origin. When  $b = 0$ , the origin is at the upper point so that  $x = 0$ , when  $b = 0$ . Now

$$I_1 - I_0 = \frac{\dot{y}_1 \delta y_1}{\sqrt{y_1(1 - \dot{y}_1^2)}} - \frac{\dot{y}_0 \delta y_0}{\sqrt{y_0(1 - \dot{y}_0^2)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2a}} (\dot{y}_1 \delta y_1 - \dot{y}_0 \delta y_0). \quad (38)$$

But the extreme points are fixed so that  $\delta y_0$  and  $\delta y_1$  vanish, hence,  $I_1 - I_0$  also vanishes. If only the abscissa of the lower point is given, not the ordinates,  $I_0$  vanishes, as before, and therefore,

$$I_1 = \frac{\dot{y}_1 \delta y}{\sqrt{2a}}. \quad (39)$$

But  $\delta y_1$  is arbitrary, hence, if  $I_1$  is to vanish,  $\dot{y}_1$  must be zero. This means that the tangent to the cycloid at the lower limiting point must be horizontal with the  $x$ -axis.

## § 175. The Variation of an Integral with Variable Limits.

The preceding problem becomes a little more complex if we assume that we have two given curves, and it is required to find "the

curve of quickest descent" from the one given curve to the other. Here we have not only to find the path of descent, but also the point at which the particle is to leave one curve and arrive at the other. The former part of the question is evidently work for the calculus of variations, and the latter is readily solved by the differential calculus: given the curve, to find its position to make  $t$  a minimum. The value of the integral

$$U = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} V dx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (40)$$

not only changes when  $y$  is changed to  $y + \delta y$ , but also when the limits  $x_1$  and  $x_0$  become  $x_1 + dx_1$ , and  $x_0 + dx_0$  respectively. The change of the limits augments  $U$  by the amount

$$dU = \int_{x_1}^{x_1 + dx_1} V_1 \cdot dx - \int_{x_0}^{x_0 + dx_0} V_0 \cdot dx; \quad . \quad (41)$$

or, neglecting the higher powers of  $dx_1$  and  $dx_0$ ,  $U$  receives the increment

$$dU = V_1 dx_1 - V_0 dx_0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (42)$$

The total increment of  $U$  is therefore

$$\text{Total incr. } U = dU + \delta U = V_1 dx_1 - V_0 dx_0 + \delta \int_{x_0}^{x_1} V \cdot dx. \quad (43)$$

In words, the total increment which a quantity receives from the operation of several effects is the sum of the increments which each effect would produce if it acted separately. This is nothing but the principle of the superposition of small motions, pages 70 and 400, under another guise.

The maximum-minimum condition is that the total increment be zero. This can only obtain when  $V_1 = 0$ , and  $V_0 = 0$ . We thus have two new conditions to take into consideration besides those indicated in the preceding section.

**EXAMPLE.**—Find the "curve of quickest descent" from one given curve to another. Ex. (2), page 572, has taught us that the "curve of quickest descent" is a cycloid. The problem now before us is to find the relation between the cycloid and the two given curves. We see from (15) and (43) that the maximum-minimum condition is

$$V_1 dx_1 - V_0 dx_0 + I_1 - I_0 + \int_{x_0}^{x_1} K \delta y dx = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (44)$$

But we can use the results of Ex. (2), page 573, equations (33) and (38), therefore the maximum-minimum condition becomes

$$V_1 dx_1 - V_0 dx_0 + \frac{y_1 \delta y_1}{\sqrt{y_1(1 + y_1^2)}} - \frac{y_0 \delta y_0}{\sqrt{y_0(1 + y_0^2)}} + \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \left( P - \frac{dQ}{dx} \right) \delta y dx. \quad (45)$$

As before, (29) holds good, consequently,

$$\sqrt{y_1(1+y^2)} = \sqrt{2a}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (46)$$

$$\therefore V_1 dx_1 - V_0 dx_0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2a}} \left( \frac{dy_1}{dx_1} \delta y_1 - \frac{dy_0}{dx_0} \delta y_0 \right) = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (47)$$

Remembering that the end values of the curve are  $x_0, y_0$ , and  $x_1, y_1$ , let  $y$  suffer a variation  $\delta y$  so that

$$Y = y + \delta y. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (48)$$

with fixed limits, and, at the same time,  $x_0, y_0$ , and  $x_1, y_1$ , respectively become  $x_0, Y_0$ , and  $x_1, Y_1$ . Let us find how  $\delta y_0$  and  $\delta y_1$  are affected when the values of  $x$  change respectively to  $x_0 + dx_0$ , and  $x_1 + dx_1$ . By Taylor's theorem, instead of  $y_1$  becoming  $Y_1$ , we have  $Y_1$  changed to

$$Y_1 + \frac{dY_1}{dx_1} dx_1 + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{d^2 Y_1}{dx_1^2} (dx_1)^2 + \dots \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (49)$$

or, from (4) and (48),

$$(y_1 + \delta y_1) + \left( \frac{dy_1}{dx_1} dx_1 + \frac{dY_1}{d\hat{y}_1} \delta \hat{y}_1 \cdot dx_1 \right) + \dots \quad . \quad . \quad (50)$$

Neglecting the higher powers of  $dx_1$  and the product  $\delta \hat{y}_1, dx_1$ ,

$$Y_1 \text{ becomes } y_1 + \delta y_1 + \hat{y}_1 dx_1, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (51)$$

as a result of the variation and of the change of  $x_1$  into  $x_1 + dx_1$ .

Let the equation of one of the curves be

$$y = f(x_1), \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (52)$$

then the abscissa of the end value of  $Y_1$  is changed into  $f(x_1 + dx_1)$  after the variation. Consequently, after variation,

$$y_1 + \delta y_1 + \hat{y}_1 dx_1 = f(x_1 + dx_1) = f(x_1) + f'(x_1) dx_1,$$

by Taylor's theorem. From (50) we can cancel out the  $y$ 's and

$$\delta y_1 = \{f'(x_1) - \hat{y}_1\} dx_1, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (53)$$

remains. A similar relation holds good between  $\delta y_0$  and  $dx_0$ .

Let us return after this digression to (47), and, in order to fix our ideas, let the two given curves be

$$y_1 = mx_1 + a; \quad y_0 = mx_0 + b; \quad \therefore \hat{y}_1 = m; \quad \hat{y}_0 = n. \quad . \quad (54)$$

From (53) we have

$$\delta y_1 = (m - \hat{y}_1) dx_1; \quad \delta y_0 = (n - \hat{y}_0) dx_0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (55)$$

Substitute these values in (47), and

$$\left\{ V_1 + \frac{\hat{y}_1}{\sqrt{2a}} (m - \hat{y}_1) \right\} dx_1 - \left\{ V_0 + \frac{\hat{y}_0}{\sqrt{2a}} (n - \hat{y}_0) \right\} dx_0 = 0. \quad . \quad (56)$$

Since  $dx_1$  and  $dx_0$  are arbitrary, the coefficients of  $dx_1$  and  $dx_0$  must be separately zero in order that (56) may vanish.

$$\therefore 1 + \hat{y}_1 m = 0; \quad 1 + \hat{y}_0 n = 0; \quad \text{or, } \frac{dy_1}{dx_1} = -\frac{1}{m}; \quad \frac{dy_0}{dx_0} = -\frac{1}{n}. \quad . \quad (57)$$

Now compare this result with (18), page 96, and you will see that the two given curves are at right angles with the "curve of quickest descent".

## § 176. Relative Maxima and Minima.

After the problem of the brachistochrone had been solved, James Bernoulli, brother of John, proposed another variety of problem—the so-called *isoperimetrical problem*—of which the fol-

lowing is a type : Find the maximum or minimum values of a certain integral,  $U_1$ , when another integral,  $U_2$ , involving the same variables has a constant value. The problem proposed at the beginning of this chapter is a more concrete illustration. Here,  $\delta U_1$  must not only vanish, but it must vanish for those values of the variables which make  $U_2$  constant. It will be obvious that if  $U_1$  be a maximum or a minimum, so will  $U_1 + aU_2$  also be a maximum or a minimum;  $a$  is an arbitrary constant. The problem therefore reduces to the determination of the maximum or minimum values of  $U_1 + aU_2$ . If

$$U_1 = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} V_1 dx; \quad U_2 = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} V_2 dx; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (58)$$

$U_1 + aU_2$  will be a maximum or a minimum when

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} (V_1 + V_2 a) dx = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (59)$$

is a maximum or a minimum. When  $U_2$  is known,  $a$  can be evaluated.

EXAMPLE.—Find the curve of given length joining two fixed points so that the area bounded by the curve, the  $x$ -axis, and the ordinates at the fixed points may be a maximum. Here we have

$$U_1 = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} y dx; \quad U_2 = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (60)$$

as indicated on page 246. Here then

$$V_1 + aV_2 = y + a\sqrt{1 + \dot{y}^2}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (61)$$

We require the maximum value of the integral

$$U = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} V. dx = \int_{x_2}^{x_1} \left\{ y + a\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} \right\} dx. \quad . \quad . \quad (62)$$

$V$  is a function of  $y$  and  $\dot{y}$ , hence from (19) we must have

$$V = P\dot{y} + C; \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (63)$$

$$\therefore y + a\sqrt{1 + \dot{y}^2} = \frac{a\dot{y}^2}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{y}^2}} + C_1; \quad \therefore y + \frac{a}{\sqrt{1 + \dot{y}^2}} = C_1, \quad . \quad (64)$$

By a transposition of terms,

$$1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 = \frac{a}{(y - C_1)^2}; \quad \therefore \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 = \frac{(y - C_1)^2}{a^2 - (y - C_1)^2}; \quad . \quad . \quad (65)$$

which becomes, on integration,

$$x - C_2 = \sqrt{a^2 - (y - C_1)^2}; \quad \text{or, } (x - C_2)^2 + (y - C_1)^2 = a^2. \quad . \quad (66)$$

This is obviously the equation of a circular line. The limits are fixed, and therefore  $I_1 - I_0 = 0$ . The constants  $a$ ,  $C_1$ , and  $C_2$  can be evaluated when the fixed points and the length of the curve are known.

### § 177. The Differentiation of Definite Integrals.

I must now make a digression. I want to show how to find the differential coefficient,  $du/da$ , of the definite integral  $u = \int f(x, a)dx$  between the limits  $y_1$  and  $y_0$ , when  $y_1$  and  $y_0$  are functions of  $a$ . Let  $f'(x, a)dx$  become  $f(x, a)$  after integration, we have therefore

$$u = \int_{y_0}^{y_1} f(x, a)dx = f(y_1, a) - f(y_0, a). \quad (67)$$

Hence, on partial differentiation with respect to  $y_1$ , when  $y_0$  is constant; and then with respect to  $y_0$ , when  $y_1$  is constant, we get

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y_1} = \frac{d}{dy_1} f(y_1, a) = f'(y_1, a); \quad - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y_0} = \frac{d}{dy_0} f(y_0, a) = f'(y_0, a). \quad (68)$$

Now suppose that  $a$  suffers a small increment so that when  $a$  becomes  $a + h$ ,  $u$  becomes  $u + k$ , then, keeping the limits constant,

$$\text{Incr. } u = \int \{f'(x, a + h) - f'(x, a)\}dx. \quad (69)$$

Dividing by  $\delta a$ , and passing to the limit, we have

$$\frac{\text{Incr. } u}{\text{Incr. } a} = \int_{y_0}^{y_1} \frac{f'(x, a + h) - f'(x, a)}{h} dx; \quad \therefore \frac{du}{da} = \int_y \frac{df'(x, a)}{da} dx. \quad (70)$$

If both  $y_1$  and  $y_0$  are functions of  $a$ , then  $du/da$  must be the sum of three separate terms, (i) the change due to  $a$ ; (ii) the change due to  $y_1$ ; and (iii) the change due to  $y_0$ . These separate effects have been evaluated in equations (68) and (70), consequently,

$$\frac{du}{da} = \frac{d}{da} \int_{y_0}^{y_1} f'(x, a)dx = \int_{y_0}^{y_1} \frac{df'(x, a)}{da} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y_1} \frac{dy_1}{da} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y_0} \frac{dy_0}{da}. \quad (71)$$

$$\therefore \frac{du}{da} = \int_{y_0}^{y_1} \frac{df'(x, a)}{da} dx + f'(y_1, a) \frac{dy_1}{da} - f'(y_0, a) \frac{dy_0}{da}. \quad (72)$$

The higher derivatives can be obtained by an application of the same methods.

### § 178. Double and Triple Integrals.

We now pass to double integrals, say,

$$U = \iint V dx dy, \quad (73)$$

where  $V$  is a function of  $x, y, z, p$ , and  $q$ , and

$$p = \frac{dz}{dx}; \quad q = \frac{dz}{dy}. \quad (74)$$

We apply the same general methods as those employed for single integrals, but there are some difficulties in connection with the limits of integration of multiple integrals. Let  $\delta z$  denote the variation of  $z$  which occurs when the form of the function connecting  $z$  with  $x$ , and  $y$  is known,  $x$  and  $y$  remaining constant during the

variation. Further, let  $\delta V$  denote the variation of  $V$ , and  $\delta U$  the variation of  $U$ , when  $z$  becomes  $\delta z$ ; then by the preceding methods,

$$\delta V = \frac{dV}{dx} \delta x + \frac{dV}{dp} \delta p + \frac{dV}{dq} \delta q = P \delta z + Q \delta p + R \delta q, \quad (75)$$

where we have put for the sake of convenience,

$$P = \frac{dV}{dz}; \quad Q = \frac{dV}{dp}; \quad R = \frac{dV}{dq}. \quad (76)$$

We therefore write, from (75),

$$\delta U = \iint \delta V dx dy = \iint \left( P \delta z + Q \frac{d\delta z}{dx} + R \frac{d\delta z}{dy} \right) dx dy. \quad (77)$$

Still keeping on the old track,

$$U = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \int_{y_0}^{y_1} \left( P - \frac{dQ}{dx} + \frac{dR}{dy} \right) \delta z dx dy + \left. \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \int_{y_0}^{y_1} \left\{ \frac{d}{dx} (Q \delta z) + \frac{d}{dy} (R \delta z) \right\} dx dy \right\}. \quad (78)$$

The differential coefficients with respect to  $x$  and  $y$  are complete.

We get, on integration with respect to  $y$ ,

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} \int_{y_0}^{y_1} \frac{d}{dx} (R \delta z) dx dy = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \left[ R \delta z \right]_{y_0}^{y_1} dx, \quad (79)$$

where  $\left[ R \delta z \right]_{y_0}^{y_1}$ , as on page 232, represents the value of  $R \delta z$  when  $y_1$  and  $y_0$  are each substituted in place of  $y$ , and the latter then subtracted from the former. Again, from (70) followed by a transposition of terms, we get

$$\int_{y_0}^{y_1} \frac{d(Q \delta x)}{dx} dy = \frac{d}{dx} \int_{y_0}^{y_1} Q \delta z dy - \left[ (Q \delta x) \frac{dy}{dx} \right]_{y_0}^{y_1}, \quad (80)$$

where  $\left[ (Q \delta x) y \right]_{y_0}^{y_1}$  denotes the value of  $(Q \delta x) y$  when  $y_1$  and  $y_0$  are each substituted in place of  $y$ , in  $Q dx$ , and the latter subtracted from the former. Hence, we may write

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} \int_{y_0}^{y_1} \frac{d(Q \delta z)}{dx} dx dy = \left[ \int_{y_0}^{y_1} Q \delta z dy \right]_{x_0}^{x_1} - \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \left[ (Q \delta z) \frac{dy}{dx} \right]_{y_0}^{y_1} dx. \quad (81)$$

By substituting (79) and (81) in place of (78), we get

$$\delta U = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \int_{y_0}^{y_1} \left( P - \frac{dQ}{dx} - \frac{dR}{dy} \right) \delta z dx dy + \left. \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \left[ R \delta z \right]_{y_0}^{y_1} dx + \left[ \int_{y_0}^{y_1} Q \delta z dy \right]_{x_0}^{x_1} - \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \left[ (Q \delta z) \frac{dy}{dx} \right]_{y_0}^{y_1} dx \right\}. \quad (82)$$

If the limits  $y_1$  and  $y_0$  are constant,  $\dot{y}_1$  and  $\dot{y}_0$  vanish, and we can therefore neglect the last term. If the limits also change, we must

add on a new term in accordance with the principles laid down in § 175.

For the maximum-minimum condition,  $\delta U$  of (82) can only vanish when the coefficient of  $\delta z$ , namely,

$$P - \frac{dQ}{dx} - \frac{dR}{dy} = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (83)$$

The solution of this partial differential equation furnishes  $z$  in terms of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and arbitrary functions; the latter must be so determined that the remaining terms of (82) vanish.

For the triple integral

$$U = \iiint V dx dy dz, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (84)$$

where  $V$  is a given function of  $u$ ,  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$ ,  $p$ ,  $q$ ,  $r$ ; and  $u$  is a function such that

$$p = \frac{du}{dx}; \quad q = \frac{du}{dy}; \quad r = \frac{du}{dz}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (85)$$

We have also

$$\delta U = \iiint \delta V dx dy dz. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (86)$$

As before,

$$\delta V = N\delta u + P \frac{d\delta u}{dx} + Q \frac{d\delta u}{dy} + R \frac{d\delta u}{dz}, \quad . \quad . \quad (87)$$

where

$$N = \frac{dV}{du}; \quad P = \frac{dV}{dp}; \quad Q = \frac{dV}{dq}; \quad R = \frac{dV}{dr}, \quad . \quad (88)$$

and the variation works out to

$$\delta U = \left. \begin{aligned} & \iiint \left( N - \frac{dP}{dx} - \frac{dQ}{dy} - \frac{dR}{dz} \right) \delta u dx dy dz + \\ & \iiint \left\{ \frac{d}{dx}(P\delta u) + \frac{d}{dy}(Q\delta u) + \frac{d}{dz}(R\delta u) \right\} dx dy dz \end{aligned} \right\}. \quad (89)$$

For the maximum-minimum condition, we must solve the partial differential equation

$$N - \frac{dP}{dx} - \frac{dQ}{dy} - \frac{dR}{dz} = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (90)$$

and fit the arbitrary constants so that the remaining terms of  $\delta U$  vanish. A complete exposition of the subject would be quite outside the limits of this volume. J. H. Jellet's *An Elementary Treatise on the Calculus of Variations*, Dublin, 1850, is a good text-book; O. Bolza, in his *Lectures on the Calculus of Variations*, Chicago, 1904, has a review of modern theory.

J. H. van der Waals seeks the maximum value of a triple integral in his *Binäre Gemische*, Leipzig, 34, 1900, but the physical conditions of the problem enable the solution of (90) to be obtained in a simple manner.



## CHAPTER XI.

### DETERMINANTS.

"Operations involving intense mental effort may frequently be replaced by the aid of other operations of a routine character, with a great saving of both time and energy. By means of the theory of determinants, for example, certain algebraic operations can be solved by writing down the coefficients according to a prescribed scheme and operating with them mechanically."—  
E. MACH.

#### § 179. Simultaneous Equations.

THIS chapter is for the purpose of explaining and illustrating a system of notation which is in common use in the different branches of pure and applied mathematics.

##### *I. Homogeneous simultaneous equations in two unknowns.*

The homogeneous equations,

$$a_1x + b_1y = 0; a_2x + b_2y = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

represent two straight lines passing through the origin. In this case (§ 29),  $x = 0$  and  $y = 0$ , a deduction verified by solving for  $x$  and  $y$ . Multiply the first of equations (1) by  $b_2$ , and the second by  $b_1$ . Subtract. Or, multiply the second of equations (1) by  $a_1$ , and the first by  $a_2$ . Subtract. In each case, we obtain,

$$x(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1) = 0; y(a_2b_1 - a_1b_2) = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

Hence,  $x = 0$ ; and  $y = 0$ ; or,

$$a_1b_2 - a_2b_1 = 0; \text{ and } a_2b_1 - a_1b_2 = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

The relations in equations (3) may be written,

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} = 0; \text{ and } \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ a_1 & b_1 \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

where the left-hand side of each expression is called a **determinant**. This is nothing more than another way of writing down the difference of the diagonal products. The letters should always be taken

in cyclic order so that  $b$  follows  $a$ ,  $c$  follows  $b$ ,  $a$  follows  $c$ . In the same way 2 follows 1, 3 follows 2, and 1 follows 3.

The products  $a_1b_2$ ,  $a_2b_1$ , are called the elements of the determinant;  $a_1$ ,  $b_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $b_2$ , are the constituents of the determinants. Commas may or may not be inserted between the constituents of the horizontal rows. When only two elements are involved, the determinant is said to be of the second order.

From the above equations, it follows that *only when the determinant of the coefficients of two homogeneous equations in  $x$  and  $y$  is equal to zero can  $x$  and  $y$  possess values differing from zero.*

## II. Linear and homogeneous equations in three unknowns.

Solving the linear equations

$$a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0; \quad a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

for  $x$  and  $y$ , we get

$$x = \frac{b_1c_2 - b_2c_1}{a_1b_2 - b_1a_2}; \quad y = \frac{c_1a_2 - c_2a_1}{a_1b_2 - b_1a_2}. \quad . \quad . \quad (6)$$

If  $a_1b_2 - b_1a_2 = 0$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  become infinite. In this case, the two lines represented by equations (5) are either parallel or coincident. When

$$x = \frac{b_1c_1 - b_2c_1}{0} = \infty; \quad y = \frac{c_1a_2 - c_2a_1}{0} = \infty,$$

the lines intersect at an infinite distance away. Reduce equations (5) to the tangent form, page 90,

$$y = -\frac{a_1}{b_1}x - \frac{c_1}{b_1}; \quad y = -\frac{a_2}{b_2}x - \frac{c_2}{b_2}; \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

but since  $a_1b_2 - b_1a_2 = 0$ ,  $a_1/b_1 = a_2/b_2 =$  the tangent of the angle of inclination of the lines; in other words, two lines having the same slope towards the  $x$ -axis are parallel to each other.<sup>1</sup>

When the two lines cross each other, the values of  $x$  and  $y$  in (6) satisfy equations (5). Make the substitution required.

$$a_1(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1) + b_1(c_1a_2 - c_2a_1) + c_1(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1) = 0,$$

$$a_2(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1) + b_2(c_1a_2 - c_2a_1) + c_2(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1) = 0,$$

or, writing

$$x = \frac{X}{Z}; \quad \text{and} \quad y = \frac{Y}{Z}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (8)$$

we get a pair of homogeneous equations in  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $Z$ , namely,

$$a_1X + b_1Y + c_1Z = 0; \quad a_2X + b_2Y + c_2Z = 0. \quad (9)$$

---

<sup>1</sup> Thus the definition, "parallel lines meet at infinity," means that as the point of intersection of two lines goes further and further away, the lines become more and more nearly parallel.

Equate coefficients of like powers of the variables in these identical equations.

$$\therefore a_1 : b_1 : c_1 = a_2 : b_2 : c_2,$$

or, from (8) and (6),

$$\begin{aligned} X : Y : Z &= b_1 c_2 - b_2 c_1 : c_1 a_2 - c_2 a_1 : a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1, \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & c_1 \\ b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix} : \begin{vmatrix} c_1 & a_1 \\ c_2 & a_2 \end{vmatrix} : \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

The three determinants on the right, are symbolized by

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix} \quad (11)$$

where the number of columns is greater than the number of rows.<sup>1</sup> The determinant (11), is called a **matrix**. It is evaluated, by taking the difference of the diagonal products of any two columns.

The results obtained in (10) are employed in solving linear equations.

**EXAMPLES.**—(1) Solve  $4x + 5y = 7$ ;  $3x - 10y = 19$ .

$$\begin{aligned} X : Y : Z &= \begin{vmatrix} 5 & -7 \\ -10 & -19 \end{vmatrix} : \begin{vmatrix} -7 & 4 \\ -19 & 3 \end{vmatrix} : \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 3 & -10 \end{vmatrix}; \\ &= -165 : 55 : -55; \text{ or } x = +3 \text{ and } y = -1. \end{aligned}$$

(2) Solve  $20x - 19y = 23$ ;  $19x - 20y = 16$ . Ansr.  $x = 4$ ,  $y = 3$ .

(3) Solve the observation equations:

$$.5x - .2y = .4; .14x + .3y = 1.18. \text{ Ansr. } x = 2, y = 3.$$

(4) Solve  $\frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{3}y = 6$ ;  $\frac{1}{3}x - \frac{1}{2}y = -1$ . Ansr.  $x = 24$ ,  $y = 18$ .

The condition that three straight lines represented by the equations

$a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0$ ;  $a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0$ ;  $a_3x + b_3y + c_3 = 0$ , (12) may meet in a point, is that the roots of any two of the three lines may satisfy the third (§ 32). In this case we get a set of simultaneous equations in  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $Z$ .

$$a_1X + b_1Y + c_1Z = a_2X + b_2Y + c_2Z = a_3X + b_3Y + c_3Z = 0, \quad (13)$$

by writing  $x = X/Z$  and  $y = Y/Z$  in equations (12). From the last pair,

$$X : Y : Z = \begin{vmatrix} b_2 & c_2 \\ b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} : \begin{vmatrix} c_2 & a_2 \\ c_3 & a_3 \end{vmatrix} : \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (14)$$

But these values of  $x$  and  $y$ , also satisfy the first of equations (3), hence, by substitution,

$$a_1 \begin{vmatrix} b_2 & c_2 \\ b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} + b_1 \begin{vmatrix} c_2 & a_2 \\ c_3 & a_3 \end{vmatrix} + c_1 \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad (15)$$

<sup>1</sup> It is customary to call the vertical columns, simply "columns"; the horizontal rows, "rows".

which is more conveniently written

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (16)$$

a determinant of the third order.

It follows directly from equations (13), (14), (16), *only when the determinant of the coefficients of three homogeneous equations in  $x, y, z$ , is equal to zero, can  $x, y, z$ , possess values differing from zero.* This determinant is called the **eliminant** of the equations. Each determinant in (14) is called a **subdeterminant**, or **minor** of (16).

### § 180. The Expansion of Determinants.

It follows from (15) and (16), that

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = a_1 b_2 c_3 + a_2 b_3 c_1 + a_3 b_1 c_2 - a_1 b_3 c_2 - a_2 b_1 c_3 - a_3 b_2 c_1. \quad (17)$$

A determinant is expanded, by taking the product of one letter in each horizontal row with one letter from each of the other rows. The first element, called the **leading element**, is the product of the diagonal constituents from the top left-hand corner, *i.e.*,  $a_1 b_2 c_3$ ; its sign is taken as positive. The signs of the other five terms<sup>1</sup> are obtained by arranging alphabetically, and observing whether they can be obtained from the leading element by an odd or an even number of changes in the subscripts; if the former, the element is negative, if the latter, positive. For example,  $a_2 b_1 c_3$ , is obtained by one interchange of the subscripts 2 and 1 in the leading element;  $a_2 b_1 c_3$  is, therefore, a negative element;  $a_2 b_3 c_1$  requires two such transformations, 2 and 1, and 2 and 3, hence its sign is positive.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show  $\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 2 + 12 + 8 - 4 - 6 - 8 = 4.$

(2) Show  $\begin{vmatrix} 0 & b & c \\ b & 0 & a \\ c & a & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 2abc.$

---

<sup>1</sup> The number of elements in a determinant of the second order is  $2 \times 1$ , or  $2!$  of the third order  $3 \times 2 \times 1$ , or  $3!$ , of the fourth order,  $4!$ , etc.

### § 181. The Solution of Simultaneous Equations.

Continuing the discussion in § 179, let the equations

$$a_1x + b_1y + c_1z = d_1; \quad a_2x + b_2y + c_2z = d_2; \quad a_3x + b_3y + c_3z = d_3, \quad (18)$$

be multiplied by suitable quantities, so that  $y$  and  $z$  may be eliminated. Thus multiply the first equation by  $A_1$ , the second by  $A_2$ , the third by  $A_3$ , where  $A_1, A_2, A_3$ , are so chosen that

$$b_1A_1 + b_2A_2 + b_3A_3 = 0; \quad c_1A_1 + c_2A_2 + c_3A_3 = 0. \quad (19)$$

Hence, by substitution,

$$x(a_1A_1 + a_2A_2 + a_3A_3) = d_1A_1 + d_2A_2 + d_3A_3. \quad (20)$$

Equations (19) being homogeneous in  $A_1, A_2, A_3$ , we get, from (10),

$$A_1 : A_2 : A_3 = \begin{vmatrix} b_2 & b_3 \\ c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} : \begin{vmatrix} b_3 & b_1 \\ c_3 & c_1 \end{vmatrix} : \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ c_1 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}.$$

Substituting these values of  $A_1, A_2, A_3$ , in equations (20), we get, as in equations (14), (15), (16),

$$x \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} d_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ d_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ d_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (21)$$

In the same way, on multiplying by  $B_1, B_2, B_3$ , and by  $C_1, C_2, C_3$ .

$$y \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & d_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & d_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & d_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}; \quad z \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & d_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & d_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & d_3 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (22)$$

EXAMPLES.—Solve the following set of equations:

$$(1) \quad 5x + 3y + 3z = 48; \quad 2x + 6y - 3z = 18; \quad 8x - 3y + 2z = 21. \quad \text{From (21)}$$

$$x = \begin{vmatrix} 48 & 3 & 3 \\ 18 & 6 & -3 \\ 21 & -3 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \div \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 6 & -3 \\ 8 & -3 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 3;$$

similarly  $y = 5; z = 6$ .

(2) H. E. Roscoe and C. Schorlemmer (*Treatise on Chemistry*, 1, 704, London, 1878) use the following set of equations in the analysis of a mixture of gases containing  $C_2H_4$ ,  $C_3H_6$ , and  $C_6H_6$  gases:

$$x + y + z = a; \quad 2x + 3y + 6z = b; \quad 2x + \frac{5}{2}y + \frac{5}{2}z = c,$$

where  $a, b, c$ , are numbers obtained from the gas burette. Solve for  $x, y, z$ .

(3) Field's process (*Jour. Chem. Soc.*, 10, 234, 1858) for the determination of chlorine, bromine, and iodine when mixed in solution involves the equations

$$x + y + z = a; \quad 1.31x + y + z = b; \quad 1.637x + 1.25y + z = c,$$

where  $a, b$ , and  $c$  are numbers determined by analysis. Similar equations arise in the indirect process of analysis of a mixture of sodium and potassium salts. Find  $x, y, z$ .

(4) Solve the observation equations:

$$.3x + .2y + .5z = 3.2; \quad .2x + .3y + .4z = 2.9; \quad .4x + .3y + .5z = 3.7.$$

Ansr.  $x = 2, y = 3, z = 4$ .

(5) To illustrate the solution of simultaneous equations "by the writing down of the coefficients according to a fixed scheme and operating upon them according to a prescribed scheme," take the proof of (2), from (1), page 444, as an exercise. In equation (1) take  $z$  as an independent variable and solve the two simultaneous equations for  $dx/dz$  and  $dy/dz$ . Hence,

$$\frac{dx}{dz} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} Q_1 & R_1 \\ Q_2 & R_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} P_1 & Q_1 \\ P_2 & Q_2 \end{vmatrix}}; \quad \frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} R_1 & P_1 \\ R_2 & P_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} P_1 & Q_1 \\ P_2 & Q_2 \end{vmatrix}}; \quad \therefore \frac{dx}{dz} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} Q_1 & R_1 \\ Q_2 & R_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} P_1 & Q_1 \\ P_2 & Q_2 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} R_1 & P_1 \\ R_2 & P_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} P_1 & Q_1 \\ P_2 & Q_2 \end{vmatrix}}$$

which has the same form as (2), page 445.

### § 182. Test for Consistent Equations.

It is easy to find values of  $x$  and  $y$  in the two equations

$$a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0; \quad a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0,$$

as shown in § 179, (6); similarly, values for  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  in the equations

$$\begin{aligned} a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1 &= 0; \quad a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2 = 0; \\ a_3x + b_3y + c_3z + d_3 &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

can be readily obtained, and generally, in order to find the value of 1, 2, 3, . . . unknowns, it is necessary and sufficient to have 1, 2, 3, . . . independent relations (equations) respectively between the unknowns.

If there are, say, three equations and only two unknowns, it is possible that the values of the unknowns found from any two of these equations will not satisfy the third. For example, take the set

$$3x - 2y = 4; \quad 2x + 4y = 24; \quad x + y = 2.$$

On solving the first two equations, we get  $x = 4$ ,  $y = 4$ . But these values of  $x$  and  $y$  do not satisfy the third equation. On solving the last two,  $x = -8$ ,  $y = 10$ , and these values of  $x$  and  $y$  do not satisfy the remaining equation. In other words, the three equations are inconsistent. Consequently, it is a useful thing to be able to find if a number of equations are consistent with each other; in other words, to find if values of  $x$  and  $y$  can be determined to satisfy all of a given set of equations. For instance, is the set

$a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0; \quad a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0; \quad a_3x + b_3y + c_3 = 0,$  (23)  
consistent? From the first two equations, page 581, we get

$$x = \frac{b_1c_2 - b_2c_1}{a_1b_2 - b_1a_2}; \quad y = \frac{c_1a_2 - c_2a_1}{a_1b_2 - b_1a_2}. \quad (24)$$

Substitute these values of  $x$  and  $y$  in the last of equations (23), the

two unknowns disappear, and, if the equations are consistent,

$$a_3(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1) + b_3(c_1a_2 - c_2a_1) + c_3(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1) = 0,$$

remains. But this result is obviously the expansion of the determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (25)$$

and this in consequence called the **eliminant** of the three given equations. Hence we conclude that *three equations are consistent with each other only when the determinant of the coefficients and absolute term of the three linear equations in  $x, y, z$ , is equal to zero.*

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the following equations are consistent with one another,

$$x + y - z = 0; \quad x - y + z = 2; \quad y + z - x = 4; \quad x + y + z = 6.$$

Hint. The eliminant is

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

(2) A point oscillates freely in space under the action of a force directed from the origin of the coordinates. The equations of motion are

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -q^2x; \quad \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -q^2y; \quad \frac{d^2z}{dt^2} = -q^2z.$$

Find the path of the point. First solve the equations as in Ex. (4), page 442.

$$x = C_1 \cos qt + C_4 \sin qt; \quad y = C_2 \cos qt + C_5 \sin qt; \quad z = C_3 \cos qt + C_6 \sin qt.$$

Now eliminate  $t$ , because time does not determine the form or position of the path. Now  $\cos qt$ , and  $\sin qt$ , may be regarded as independent variables to be treated as “unknowns”. Of course two equations would be sufficient for the elimination, but three are given and all must be satisfied. For consistency we must have

$$\begin{vmatrix} x & C_1 & C_4 \\ y & C_2 & C_5 \\ z & C_3 & C_6 \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

When the determinant is expanded, the result is a linear homogeneous equation in  $x, y$ , and  $z$  which is the equation of a plane passing through the origin, and whose position is determined by the constants  $C$ . Suppose the plane to be rotated so that it coincides with the  $xy$ -plane, then  $z = 0$ . Solve for  $\cos qt$ , and  $\sin qt$ , and substitute the results in the well-known equation (19), page 611,  $\sin^2 qt + \cos^2 qt = 1$ . The equation is of the second degree. Expand and put  $C_2^2 + C_5^2 = a$ ;  $2C_1C_2 - C_4C_5 = b$ ;  $C_1^2 + C_4^2 = c$ ,  $(C_1C_5 - C_2C_4)^2 = h$ .

$$\therefore ax - bxy + cy = h.$$

In the discriminant  $b^2 - 4ac$ ,  $a$  and  $c$  are necessarily positive, consequently the curve is either an ellipse or a circle.

### § 183. Fundamental Properties of Determinants.

The student will get an idea of the peculiarities of determinants by reading over the following :—

*I. The value of a determinant is not altered by changing the columns into rows, or the rows into columns.*

It follows directly, by simple expansion, that

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ b_1 & b_2 \end{vmatrix}; \text{ and } \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (26)$$

It follows, as a corollary, that whatever law is true for the rows of a determinant is also true for the columns, and conversely.

*II. The sign, not the numerical value, of a determinant is altered by interchanging any two rows, or any two columns.*

By direct calculation,

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & a_1 \\ b_2 & a_2 \end{vmatrix}; \quad \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & a_1 & c_1 \\ b_2 & a_2 & c_2 \\ b_3 & a_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (27)$$

*III. If two rows or two columns of a determinant are identical, the determinant is equal to zero.*

If two identical rows or columns are interchanged, the sign, not the value, of the determinant, is altered. This is only possible if the determinant is equal to zero. The same thing can be proved by the expansion of, say,

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & a_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & a_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

*IV. When the constituents of two rows or two columns differ by a constant factor, the determinant is equal to zero.*

Thus by expansion show that

$$\begin{vmatrix} 4 & 1 & 5 \\ 8 & 2 & 6 \\ 12 & 3 & 7 \end{vmatrix} = 4 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 2 & 6 \\ 3 & 3 & 7 \end{vmatrix} = 4 \times 0 = 0. \quad (28)$$

*V. If a determinant has a row or column of cyphers it is equal to zero.*

This is illustrated by expansion,

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & b_1 & c_1 \\ 0 & b_2 & c_2 \\ 0 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = 0. \quad (29)$$

*VI. In order to multiply a determinant by any factor, multiply each constituent in one row or in one column by this factor*



This is illustrated by the expansion of the following :

$$m \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} ma_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ ma_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ ma_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (30)$$

*VII. In order to divide a determinant by any factor, divide each constituent in one row or in one column by that factor.*

This follows directly from the preceding proposition. It is conveniently used in the reduction of determinants to simpler forms. Thus,

$$\begin{vmatrix} 6 & 9 & 8 \\ 12 & 18 & 4 \\ 24 & 27 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 9 \cdot 6 \cdot 2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 9 \cdot 6 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (31)$$

*VIII. If the sign of every constituent in a row or column is changed, the sign of the determinant is changed.*

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} -a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ -a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ -a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -a_1 & -b_1 & c_1 \\ -a_2 & -b_2 & c_2 \\ -a_3 & -b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (32)$$

*IX. One row or column of any determinant can be reduced to unity (Dostor's theorem).*

This will need no more explanation than the following illustration :

$$\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 & 6 \\ 2 & 8 & 8 \\ 6 & 7 & 9 \end{vmatrix} = 12 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 8 & 7 & 6 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (33)$$

*X. If each constituent of a row or column can be expressed as the sum or difference of two or more terms, the determinant can be expressed as the sum or difference of two other determinants.*

This can be proved by expanding each of the following determinants, and rearranging the letters.

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 \pm p & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 \pm q & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 \pm r & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} \pm \begin{vmatrix} p & b_1 & c_1 \\ q & b_2 & c_2 \\ r & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (34)$$

In general, if each constituent of a row or column consists of  $n$  terms, the determinant can be expressed as the sum of  $n$  determinants.

**EXAMPLE.**—Show by this theorem, that

$$\begin{vmatrix} b + c & a - b & a \\ c + a & b - c & b \\ a + b & c - a & c \end{vmatrix} = 3abc - a^3 - b^3 - c^3.$$

*XI. The value of a determinant is not changed by adding to or subtracting the constituents of any row from the corresponding constituents of one or more of the other rows or columns.*

Thus from *X.* and *III.*,

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 \pm b_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 \pm b_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 \pm b_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} \pm \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ b_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ b_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}, \quad (35)$$

which proves the rule, because the determinant on the right vanishes. This result is employed in simplifying determinants.

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & x & y + z \\ 1 & y & z + x \\ 1 & z & x + y \end{vmatrix} = 0$ .

Add the second column to the last and divide the result by  $x + y + z$ . The determinant vanishes (3).

$$(2) \text{ Show } \begin{vmatrix} x & y & z \\ z & x & y \\ y & z & x \end{vmatrix} = (x + y + z) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ z & x & y \\ y & z & x \end{vmatrix}$$

Add the second and third rows to the first and divide by  $x + y + z$ .

$$(3) \text{ Why is } \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} \text{ not equal to } \begin{vmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & b_1 + a_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 + b_2 & b_2 + a_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & b_3 + a_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} ?$$

$$(4) \text{ Show } \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 1 & 7 \\ 3 & 6 & -2 \\ 5 & 1 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = -23.$$

*XII.* If all but one of the constituents of a row or column are cyphers, the determinant can be reduced to the product of the one constituent, not zero, into a determinant whose order is one less than the original determinant.

For example,

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ 0 & a_1 & b_1 \\ 0 & a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix}; \quad \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & -7 \\ 5 & 6 & -2 \\ -3 & 1 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = -7 \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ -3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \quad (36)$$

The converse proposition holds. The order of a determinant can be raised by similar and obvious transformations.

*XIII.* If all the constituents of a determinant on one side of the diagonal from the top left-hand corner are cyphers, the determinant reduces to the leading term.

$$\text{Thus, } \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ 0 & b_2 & c_2 \\ 0 & 0 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = a_1 \begin{vmatrix} b_2 & c_2 \\ 0 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = a_1 b_2 c_3. \quad (37)$$

The determinant  $\begin{vmatrix} b_2 & c_2 \\ 0 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$  is called the co-factor or complement of the constituent  $a_1$ .

## § 184. The Multiplication of Determinants.

This is done in the following manner :

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} \times \begin{vmatrix} d_1 & e_1 \\ d_2 & e_2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 d_1 + b_1 e_1 & a_1 d_2 + b_1 e_2 \\ a_2 d_1 + b_2 e_1 & a_2 d_2 + b_2 e_2 \end{vmatrix} \quad (38)$$

The proof follows directly on expanding the right side of the equation. We thus obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} &= \begin{vmatrix} a_1 d_1 & b_1 e_2 \\ a_2 d_1 & b_2 e_2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} b_1 e_1 & a_1 d_2 \\ b_2 e_1 & a_2 d_2 \end{vmatrix}; \\ &= d_1 e_2 \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} + d_2 e_1 \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & a_1 \\ b_2 & a_2 \end{vmatrix}; \\ &= (d_1 e_2 - d_2 e_1) \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} \times \begin{vmatrix} d_1 & e_1 \\ d_2 & e_2 \end{vmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Since the value of a determinant is not altered by writing the columns in rows and the rows in columns, the product of two determinants may be written in several equivalent forms which all give the same result on expansion. Thus, instead of the right side of (38), we may have

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 d_1 + b_1 d_2 & a_1 e_1 + b_1 e_2 \\ a_2 d_1 + b_2 d_2 & a_2 e_1 + b_2 e_2 \end{vmatrix}; \begin{vmatrix} a_1 d_1 + a_2 d_2 & a_1 e_1 + a_2 e_2 \\ b_1 d_1 + b_2 d_2 & b_1 e_1 + b_2 e_2 \end{vmatrix}, \text{ etc.}$$

EXAMPLES.—(1)  $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix}^2 = \begin{vmatrix} a_1^2 + b_1^2 & a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 \\ a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 & a_2^2 + b_2^2 \end{vmatrix}.$

(2) Multiply  $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$  and  $\begin{vmatrix} d_1 & e_1 & f_1 \\ d_2 & e_2 & f_2 \\ d_3 & e_3 & f_3 \end{vmatrix}$

The answer may be written in several different forms; one form is

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 d_1 + b_1 e_1 + c_1 f_1 & a_1 d_2 + b_1 e_2 + c_1 f_2 & a_1 d_3 + b_1 e_3 + c_1 f_3 \\ a_2 d_1 + b_2 e_1 + c_2 f_1 & a_2 d_2 + b_2 e_2 + c_2 f_2 & a_2 d_3 + b_2 e_3 + c_2 f_3 \\ a_3 d_1 + b_3 e_1 + c_3 f_1 & a_3 d_2 + b_3 e_2 + c_3 f_2 & a_3 d_3 + b_3 e_3 + c_3 f_3 \end{vmatrix}.$$

This can be verified by the laborious operation of expansion. There are twenty-seven determinants all but six of which vanish.

When two constituents of a determinant hold the same relative position with respect to the leading constituents, they are said to be **conjugate**. Thus in the last of the determinants in (34)  $b_1$  and  $q$  are conjugate, so are  $b_3$  and  $c_2$ ,  $r$  and  $c_1$ . If the conjugate elements are equal, the determinant is symmetrical, if equal but opposite in sign, we have a **skew determinant**. *The square of a determinant is a symmetrical determinant.*

## § 185. The Differentiation of Determinants.

Suppose that the constituents of a determinant are independent and that

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} = x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1,$$

then,

$$\begin{aligned} d(D) &= x_1 dy_2 + y_2 dx_1 - x_2 dy_1 - y_1 dx_2; \\ &= (y_2 dx_1 - y_1 dx_2) + (x_1 dy_2 - x_2 dy_1); \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} dx_1 & y_1 \\ dx_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & dy_1 \\ x_2 & dy_2 \end{vmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

If the constituents of the determinant are functions of an independent variable, say  $t$ , then, writing  $\dot{x}_1$  for  $dx_1/dt$ ,  $\dot{y}_2$  for  $dy_2/dt$  and so on, it can be proved, in the same way,

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix}; \quad d(D)/dt = \begin{vmatrix} \dot{x}_1 & y_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & \dot{y}_1 \\ x_2 & \dot{y}_2 \end{vmatrix}. \quad (40)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that if  $D = \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & z_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & z_2 \\ x_3 & y_3 & z_3 \end{vmatrix}$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} d(D) &= \begin{vmatrix} dx_1 & y_1 & z_1 \\ dx_2 & y_2 & z_2 \\ dx_3 & y_3 & z_3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & dy_1 & z_1 \\ x_2 & dy_2 & z_2 \\ x_3 & dy_3 & z_3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & dz_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & dz_2 \\ x_3 & y_3 & dz_3 \end{vmatrix}; \\ d(D)/dt &= \begin{vmatrix} \dot{x}_1 & y_1 & z_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 & y_2 & z_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 & y_3 & z_3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & \dot{y}_1 & z_1 \\ x_2 & \dot{y}_2 & z_2 \\ x_3 & \dot{y}_3 & z_3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & \dot{z}_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & \dot{z}_2 \\ x_3 & y_3 & \dot{z}_3 \end{vmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(2) If  $a_1, b_1, c_1, a_2, b_2, \dots$ , are constants, show that

$$d \begin{vmatrix} a_1 x & b_1 y & c_1 z \\ a_2 x & b_2 y & c_2 z \\ a_3 x & b_3 y & c_3 z \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 dx & b_1 y & c_1 z \\ a_2 dx & b_2 y & c_2 z \\ a_3 dx & b_3 y & c_3 z \end{vmatrix} + , \text{ etc.}, = dx \begin{vmatrix} b_1 y & c_1 z \\ b_2 y & c_2 z \\ b_3 y & c_3 z \end{vmatrix}, \text{ etc.}$$

## § 186. Jacobians and Hessians.

*I. Definitions.* If  $u, v, w$ , be functions of the independent variables,  $x, y, z$ , the determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \end{vmatrix}, \quad (41)$$

is called a **Jacobian** and is variously written,

$$\frac{\partial(u, v, w)}{\partial(x, y, z)}; \text{ or } J(u, v, w); \text{ or simply } J, \quad (42)$$

when there can be no doubt as to the variables under consideration.

In the special case, where the functions  $u, v, w$  are themselves differential coefficients of the one function, say  $u$ , with respect to  $x, y$  and  $z$ , the determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial z} \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} & \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial z} \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z \partial x} & \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial z} & \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \end{vmatrix}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (43)$$

is called a **Hessian** of  $u$  and written  $H(u)$ , or simply  $H$ . The Hessian, be it observed, is a symmetrical determinant whose constituents are the second differential coefficients of  $u$  with respect to  $x, y, z$ . In other words, the Hessian of the primitive function  $u$ , is the Jacobian of the first differential coefficients of  $u$ , or in the notation of (42),

$$H(u) = \frac{\partial \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right)}{\partial (x, y, z)}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (44)$$

II. *Jacobians and Hessians of interdependent functions.* If

$$u = f(v),$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = f'(v) \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}; \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = f'(v) \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}.$$

Eliminate the function  $f(v)$  as described on page 449.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = 0,$$

or,

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \end{vmatrix} = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (45)$$

That is to say, *if  $u$  is a function of  $v$ , the Jacobian of the functions of  $u$  and  $v$  with respect to  $x$  and  $y$  will be zero.*

The converse of this proposition is also true. If the relation (45) holds good,  $u$  will be a function of  $v$ .

In the same way, it can be shown that *only when the Hessian of  $u$  is not equal to zero are the first derivatives of  $u$  with respect to  $x$  and  $y$  independent of each other.*

EXAMPLES.—(1) If the denominators of (9), *et seq.*, page 453, that is, if  $P, Q$ , and  $R$  vanish, show that  $u$  can be expressed as a function of  $v$ , or,  $u$  and  $v$  are not independent. Ansr. The expression is a Jacobian. If  $u$  is a function of  $v$ , the Jacobian vanishes.  $R$  vanishes if either  $u$  or  $v$  is a function of  $z$  only;  $P, Q$ , and  $R$  all vanish if  $u$  is a function of  $v$ ; and  $f(u, v) = 0$  can be represented by  $v = c$  which contains no arbitrary function.

(2) Show that  $\frac{\partial(\phi, u, v)}{\partial(x, y, z)} = 0$  is a condition that  $\phi = 0$  shall be an integral of  $P\partial z/\partial x + Q\partial z/\partial y = R$ . Hint.  $\phi$  is a function of  $x, y, z$ , and can be expressed as a function of  $u$  and  $v$ .

(3) If  $P, Q$ , and  $R$  are given, the Jacobian of  $u$  and  $v$  must be proportional to  $P, Q$  and  $R$ . This follows from the equations on page 453.

III. *The Jacobian of a function of a function.* If  $u_1, u_2$ , are functions of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , and  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are functions of  $y_1$  and  $y_2$ ,

$$\frac{\partial u_1}{\partial y_1} = \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_1} \cdot \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_1} + \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_2} \cdot \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial y_1}; \quad \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial y_2} = \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_1} \cdot \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_2} + \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_2} \cdot \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial y_2}.$$

By the rule for the multiplication of determinants,

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial y_2} \\ \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial y_2} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_2} \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_2} \\ \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial y_2} \end{vmatrix}, \quad (46)$$

or, 
$$\frac{\partial(u_1, u_2)}{\partial(y_1, y_2)} = \frac{\partial(u_1, u_2)}{\partial(x_1, x_2)} \cdot \frac{\partial(x_1, x_2)}{\partial(y_1, y_2)}.$$

This bears a close formal analogy with the well-known

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{\partial y}{\partial x}.$$

IV. *The Jacobian of implicit<sup>1</sup> functions.* If  $u$  and  $v$ , instead of being explicitly connected with the independent variables  $x$  and  $y$ , are so related that

$$p = f_1(x, y, u, v) = 0; \quad q = f_2(x, y, u, v) = 0,$$

$u$  and  $v$  may be regarded as implicit functions of  $x$  and  $y$ . By differentiation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial p}{\partial p} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial p} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial p}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} &= 0; \quad \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial p}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial p}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0; \\ \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial q}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial q}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} &= 0; \quad \frac{\partial q}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial q}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial q}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0; \end{aligned}$$

and by the rule for the multiplication of determinants,

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial p}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial p}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial q}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial q}{\partial v} \end{vmatrix} \times \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial q}{\partial y} \end{vmatrix}. \quad (47)$$

<sup>1</sup> A function is said to be **explicit** when it can be expressed directly in terms of the variable or variables, e.g.,  $z$  is an explicit function of  $x$  in the expression:  $z = x^2$ ;  $z + a = bx^4$ . A function is **implicit** when it cannot be so expressed in terms of the independent variable. Thus  $x^2 + xy = y^2$ ;  $x + y = x^x$ , are implicit functions.

Or, 
$$\frac{\partial(p, q)}{\partial(u, v)} \cdot \frac{\partial(u, v)}{\partial(x, y)} = - \frac{\partial(p, q)}{\partial(x, y)}.$$

A result which may be extended to include any number of independent relations.

### § 187. Illustrations from Thermodynamics.

Determinants, Jacobians and Hessians are continually appearing in different branches of applied mathematics. The following results will serve as a simple exercise on the mathematical methods of some of the earlier sections of this work. The reader should find no difficulty in assigning a meaning to most of the coefficients considered. See J. E. Trevor, *Journ. Phys. Chem.*, 3, 523, 573, 1899; 10, 99, 1906; also R. E. Baynes' *Thermodynamics*, Oxford, 95, 1878.

If  $U$  denotes the internal energy,  $\phi$  the entropy,  $p$  the pressure,  $v$  the volume,  $T$  the absolute temperature,  $Q$  the quantity of heat in a system of constant mass and composition, the two laws of thermodynamics state that

$$dQ = dU + p \cdot dv; \quad dQ = Td\phi, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

pages 80 and 81. To find a value for each of the partial derivatives

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial p}\right)_v, \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial p}\right)_T, \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial T}\right)_p, \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial T}\right)_v, \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial v}\right)_p, \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial v}\right)_T; \\ & \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial p}\right)_T, \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial p}\right)_\phi, \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial T}\right)_p, \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial T}\right)_\phi, \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial \phi}\right)_p, \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial \phi}\right)_T, \end{aligned}$$

in terms of the derivatives of  $U$ .

I. When  $v$  or  $\phi$  is constant. From (1),

$$-p = \partial U / \partial v; \quad \text{and} \quad T = \partial U / \partial \phi. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

First, differentiate each of the expressions (2), with respect to  $\phi$  at constant volume.

$$-\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi}\right)_v = \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v \partial \phi}; \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \phi}\right)_v = \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \phi^2}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

By division, 
$$-\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_v = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v \partial \phi}}{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \phi^2}}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4)$$

Next, differentiate each of equations (2) with respect to  $v$  at constant entropy.

$$-\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}\right)_\phi = \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v^2}; \quad \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial v}\right)_\phi = \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \phi \partial v}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

By division, 
$$-\left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial T}\right)_\phi = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v^2}}{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \phi \partial v}}. \quad (6)$$

II. When either  $p$  or  $T$  is constant. We know that

$$dp = \frac{\partial p}{\partial v} dv + \frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi} d\phi; \text{ and } dT = \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial v} dv + \frac{\partial T}{\partial \phi} d\phi. \quad (7)$$

First, when  $p$  is constant, eliminate  $dv$  or  $d\phi$  between equations (7). Hence show that

$$\frac{\frac{dv}{\frac{\partial p}{\partial v}}}{-\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial p}} = \frac{d\phi}{\frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi}} = \frac{d\theta}{J},$$

where  $J$  denotes the Jacobian  $\partial(p, T)/\partial(v, \phi)$ . If  $H$  denotes the Hessian of  $U$ , show that

$$-\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial \phi}\right)_p = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v \partial \phi}}{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v^2}}; \quad -\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial T}\right)_p = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v \partial \phi}}{H}; \quad \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial T}\right)_p = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v^2}}{H} \quad (8)$$

Finally, if  $T$  is constant, show that

$$\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial v}\right)_T = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v \partial \phi}}{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \phi^2}}; \quad \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial p}\right)_T = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial v \partial \phi}}{H}; \quad -\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial p}\right)_T = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial \phi^2}}{H} \quad (9)$$

### § 188. Study of Surfaces.

Just as an equation of the first degree between two variables represents a straight line of the first order, so does an equation of the first degree between three variables represent a **surface of the first order**. Such an equation in its most general form is

$$Ax + By + Cz + D = 0,$$

the equation to a plane.

An equation of the second degree between three variables represents a **surface of the second order**. The most general equation of the second degree between three variables is

$$Ax^2 + By^2 + Cz^2 + Dxy + Eyz + Fzx + \dots + N = 0.$$

All plane sections of surfaces of the second order are either circular, parabolic, hyperbolic, or elliptical, and are comprised under the generic word *conicoids*, of which *spheroids*, *paraboloids*, *hyperboloids* and *ellipsoids* are special cases.

J. Thomson (*Phil. Mag.*, 43, 227, 1871) developed a surface of



the second degree by plotting from the gas equation

$$f(p, v, T) = 0; \text{ or } pv = RT,$$

by causing  $p$ ,  $v$  and  $T$  to vary simultaneously. The surface  $pabv$  (Fig. 175) was developed in this way.

Since any section cut perpendicular to the  $T$ - or  $\theta$ -axis is a rectangular hyperbola, the surface is a hyperboloid. The isothermals  $T$ ,  $T_2$ ,  $T_3$ , . . . (Fig. 29, page 111) may be looked upon as plane sections cut perpendicular to the  $\theta$ -axis at points corresponding to  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ , . . . , and then projected upon the  $pv$ -plane. In Fig. 176, the curves corresponding to  $pv$  and  $ab$  have been so projected.

As a general rule, the surface generated by three variables is not so simple as the one represented by a gas obeying the simple laws of Boyle and Charles.

Van der Waals' " $\psi$ " surfaces are developed by using the variables  $\psi$ ,  $x$ ,  $v$ , where  $\psi$  denotes the thermodynamic potential at

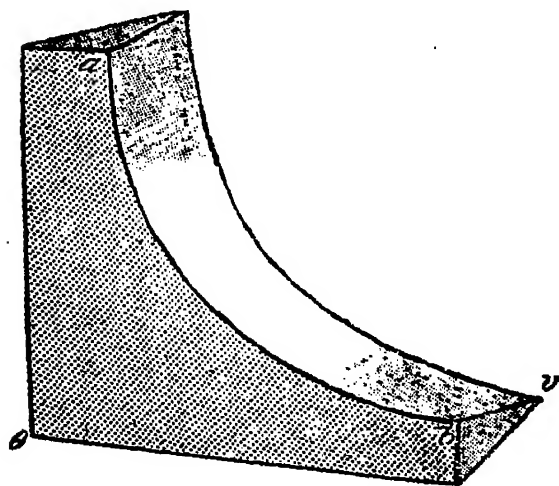


FIG. 175.— $pvt$ -surface.

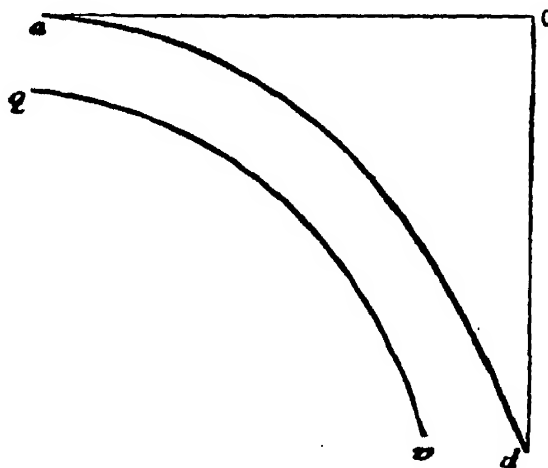


FIG. 176.—Two Isothermals.

constant volume ( $U - T\phi$ );  $x$  the composition of the substance;  $v$  the volume of the system under investigation. The " $\psi$ " surface is analogous to, but not identical with,  $pabv$  in the above figure.

The so-called **thermodynamic surfaces of Gibbs** are obtained in the same way from the variables  $v$ ,  $U$ ,  $\phi$  (where  $v$  denotes the volume,  $U$  the internal energy, and  $\phi$  the entropy) of the given system.

The solubility of a double salt may be studied with respect to three variables—temperature,  $\theta$ , and the concentrations  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  of each component in the presence of its own solid. Thus a mixed

solution of magnesium sulphate,  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , and potassium sulphate,  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4$ , will deposit the double salt,  $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot \text{K}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , under certain conditions. The surface so obtained is called a **surface of solubility**. The solution can also deposit other solids under certain conditions. For example, we may also have crystals of  $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$  deposited in such a manner as to form another surface of solubility. This is not all. The above system may deposit crystals of the hydrate  $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , the double salt  $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot \text{K}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , or the separate components. The final result is the set of surfaces shown in Fig. 177.

The surface which is represented by the equation,

$$f(x, y, z) = 0; \text{ or, } z = \phi(x, y),$$

will exhibit the characteristic properties of any substance with respect to the three variables  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ . The surface, in fact,

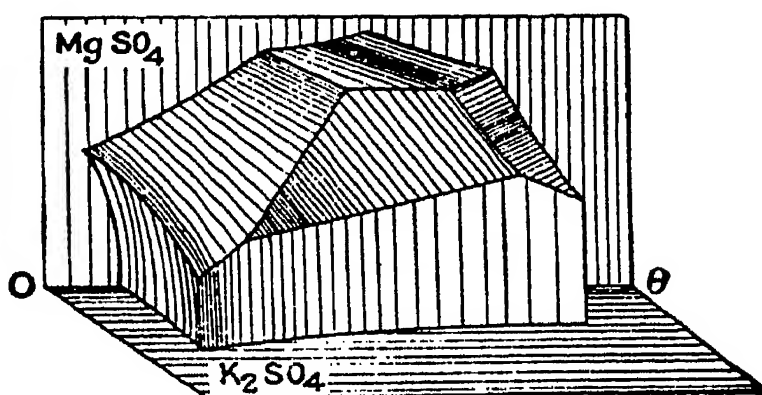


FIG. 177.

will possess certain geometrical peculiarities which depend upon the nature of the substance. It is therefore necessary to be able to study the nature of the surface at any point when we know the equation of the surface.

*I. The tangent line, and tangent plane.* Let the point  $P(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  be upon the surface

$$u = f(x, y, z). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

The equations of a line through the point  $P$  are, page 131,

$$\frac{x - x_1}{l} = \frac{y - y_1}{m} = \frac{z - z_1}{n} = r, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2)$$

and where the line meets the surface

$$u = f(x_1 + lr, y_1 + mr, z_1 + nr) = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (3)$$

By Taylor's theorem,

$$r \left[ l \frac{du}{dx_1} + m \frac{du}{dy_1} + n \frac{du}{dz_1} \right] + \frac{r^2}{2} \left[ \frac{d^2u}{dx_1^2} + m \frac{d^2u}{dy_1^2} + n \frac{d^2u}{dz_1^2} \right] + \dots = 0. \quad (4)$$

One value of  $r$  must be zero since  $P$  is on the surface; and if we choose the line so that

$$l \frac{du}{dx_1} + m \frac{du}{dy_1} + n \frac{du}{dz_1} = 0, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (5)$$

another value of  $r$  will vanish; so that for this direction another point,  $Q$ , will coincide with  $P$  and the line will be a tangent line. Equation (6) gives the relation between the direction cosines of a tangent line to the surface at the point  $P(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ . Eliminating  $l$ ,  $m$ , and  $n$ , between (2) and (5), we get

$$(x - x_1) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} + (y - y_1) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y_1} + (z - z_1) \frac{\partial u}{\partial z_1} = 0. \quad . \quad (6)$$

This equation being of the first degree in  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  represents a plane surface. All the tangent lines lie in one plane. Equation (6) is the equation of a tangent plane at the point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ .

If the surface had the form

$$z = f(x, y) \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (7)$$

equation (6) would have been

$$(x - x_1) \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_1} + (y - y_1) \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial y_1} = z - z_1, \quad . \quad (8)$$

at the point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ .

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the tangent plane of the sphere  $x_1^2 + y_1^2 + z_1^2 = r^2$  at the point  $(x, y, z)$  is  $xx_1 + yy_1 + zz_1 = r^2$ . Hint.  $\partial u / \partial x_1 = 2x_1$ ;  $\partial u / \partial y_1 = 2y_1$ ;  $\partial u / \partial z_1 = 2z_1$ . Substitute in (6) and it follows that  $xx_1 + yy_1 + zz_1 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$ .

(2) The equation of the tangent plane at the point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  on the paraboloid

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 4pz; \text{ is } \frac{xx_1}{a^2} + \frac{yy_1}{b^2} = 2p(z + z_1).$$

(3) Show that the tangent plane to the surface (1) or (6) above is horizontal, that is, parallel to the  $xy$ -plane.  $z - z_1 = 0$ . Hint. When a line is parallel to the  $x$ -axis, the angle it makes with the axis is zero, and  $\tan 0^\circ = 0$ , hence we must have  $\partial u / \partial x$  and  $\partial u / \partial y$  both zero; and  $\partial u / \partial z$  not zero.

II. *The normal.* By analogy with (1), page 106, or by more workmanlike proofs which the student can discover for himself, we can write the condition that a plane normal to, or perpendicular to, the tangent of the surface  $f(x, y, z) = 0$  at the point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  is

$$\frac{x - x_1}{\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}} = \frac{y - y_1}{\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}} = \frac{z - z_1}{\frac{\partial u}{\partial z}} = 0; \quad \text{or, } \frac{x - x_1}{\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}} = \frac{y - y_1}{\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}} = \frac{z - z_1}{\frac{\partial u}{\partial z}}. \quad (9)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that the normal to the sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$ , is  $x/x_1 = y/y_1 = z/z_1$ . Use the results of Ex. (1) above, and substitute in (10).

(2) The normal to the surface  $xyz = a^3$  at the point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  is  $xx_1 - x_1^2 = xy_1 - y_1^2 = xz_1 - z_1^2$ .

(3) Show that the equations of the normal and of the tangent to the curve  $y^2 = 2x - x^2$ ;  $z^2 = 4x - 2x^2$ , at the point  $(2, 3, -1)$  are respectively  $s - 2 = \frac{1}{2}(y - 3) = s + 1$ ; and  $s - 2 = -3(y - 3) = s + 1$ .

(4) We do not know the characteristic equation connecting  $p$ ,  $v$ , and  $T$ . If the substance is an ideal gas, we have  $pv = RT$ . From equations (13) and (15), pages 81 and 82, we get the fundamental equation

$$dU = Tdv - pdv, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

connecting  $v$ ,  $U$ , and  $\phi$ . This expression is the differential equation of some surface of the form

$$U = f(v, \phi); \therefore dU = \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial \phi}\right) d\phi + \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial v}\right) dv. \quad . \quad . \quad (11)$$

Where  $-1$ , and the two partial derivatives are proportional to the direction cosines of the normal to the surface at any point. Again, it follows from (10) and (11) that

$$\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial \phi}\right)_\phi = T; \text{ and } \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial v}\right)_\phi = -p. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (12)$$

In other words the direction cosines of the normal at any point on the surface are proportional to  $T$ ,  $-p$ , and  $-1$  respectively. Hence,  $v$ ,  $U$ , and  $\phi$  are the coordinates of the point on the surface, and the remaining pair of variables  $p$  and  $T$  are given by the direction cosines of the normal at the same point. The whole five quantities  $p$ ,  $v$ ,  $T$ ,  $U$ , and  $\phi$  can thus be represented in a very simple manner.

*III. Inflexional tangents.* We can discuss the equations of a surface by the aid of the extension of Taylor's theorem, on page 292, and the methods described in § 101. There are an infinite number of lines

$$\frac{x - x_1}{l} = \frac{y - y_1}{m} = \frac{z - z_1}{n}, \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (13)$$

which satisfy the relations

$$l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1; \quad l \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + m \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} - n = 0. \quad . \quad (14)$$

These lines cut the surface at two coincident points; two of these lines also satisfy the relation

$$l \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} + 2lm \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} + m \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = 0. \quad . \quad . \quad (15)$$

These two lines cut the surface at three coincident points. These lines are called **inflexional tangents**. They are real and distinct, coincident, or imaginary, according as the quadratic in  $l$ , and  $m$ ,

$$z_{xx}l^2 + 2z_{xy}lm + z_{yy}m^2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (16)$$

has real and different, double, or imaginary roots. This depends upon whether

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} - \left( \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2 = \begin{cases} + = \text{cusp}; \\ 0 = \text{conjugate point}; \\ - = \text{node}. \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

Each inflexional tangent to the surface will cut the curve in three coincident points at the point of contact. The inflexional tangents have a closer contact with the surface than any of the other tangent lines. At the point of contact of the curve with the tangent plane there will be a cusp, conjugate point, or a node, according as the above expression is positive, zero, or negative.

The equations of the inflexional tangents at the point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  are obtained by the elimination of  $l, m,$  and  $n$  between (13); the second of equations (14); and (15). If we treat the equation of the surface

$$u = f(x, y, z) = 0, \quad (18)$$

in a similar manner, we find that we must know the value of

$$l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1; \quad l \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + m \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + n \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 0, \quad (19)$$

as well as of

$$\left( l \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + m \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + n \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right)^2 u = 0, \quad (20)$$

in order to determine the inflexional tangents. These tangents will be real and different, coincident, or imaginary according as the determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} u_{xx} & u_{xy} & u_{xz} & u_x \\ u_{xy} & u_{yy} & u_{yz} & u_y \\ u_{xz} & u_{yz} & u_{zz} & u_z \\ u_x & u_y & u_z & u_0 \end{vmatrix} \quad (21)$$

is negative, positive, or zero. When the inflexional tangents are imaginary, the surface is either convex or concave at the point, and conversely. Furthermore, if

$$\begin{vmatrix} u_{xx} & u_{xy} \\ u_{xy} & u_{yy} \end{vmatrix}; \text{ and, } u \begin{vmatrix} u_{xx} & u_{xy} & u_{xz} \\ u_{xy} & u_{yy} & u_{yz} \\ u_{xz} & u_{yz} & u_{zz} \end{vmatrix} \quad (22)$$

are positive at the point  $P(x, y, z)$  the surface is concave provided  $\partial^2 u / \partial x^2$  and  $\partial u / \partial z$  have the same sign; and convex when  $\partial^2 u / \partial x^2$  and  $\partial u / \partial z$  have different signs.

# APPENDIX I.

## COLLECTION OF FORMULÆ AND TABLES FOR REFERENCE.

“When for the first time I have occasion to add five objects to seven others, I count the whole lot through; but when I afterwards discover that by starting to count from five I can save myself part of the trouble, and still later, by remembering that five and seven always add up to twelve, I can dispense with the counting altogether.”—E. MACH.

### § 189. Calculations with Small Quantities.

THE discussion on approximate calculations in Chapter V. renders any further remarks on the deduction of the following formulæ superfluous.

For the sign of equality read “is approximately equal to,” or “is very nearly equal to”. Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots$  be small fractions in comparison with unity or  $x$ :

$$(1 \pm \alpha)(1 \pm \beta) = 1 \pm \alpha \pm \beta. \quad (1)$$

$$(1 \pm \alpha)(1 \pm \beta)(1 \pm \gamma) \dots = 1 \pm \alpha \pm \beta \pm \gamma \pm \dots \quad (2)$$

$$(1 \pm \alpha)^2 = 1 \pm 2\alpha; (1 \pm \alpha)^n = 1 \pm n\alpha. \quad (3)$$

$$\sqrt{1 + \alpha} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}\alpha. \quad \sqrt{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta). \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{1}{(1 \pm \alpha)} = 1 \mp \alpha; \frac{1}{(1 \pm \alpha)^n} = 1 \mp n\alpha; \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \alpha}} = 1 - \frac{1}{2}\alpha. \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{(1 \pm \alpha)(1 \pm \beta)}{(1 \pm \gamma)(1 \pm \delta)} = 1 \pm \alpha \pm \beta \mp \gamma \mp \delta. \quad (6)$$

The third member of some of the following results is to be regarded as a second approximation, to be employed only when an exceptional degree of accuracy is required.

$$a^a = 1 + a; a^a = 1 + a \log a. \quad (7)$$

$$\log(1 + \alpha) = \alpha - \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2. \quad (8)$$

$$\log(x + \alpha) = \log x + \frac{\alpha}{x} - \frac{1}{2}\frac{\alpha^2}{x^2}. \quad (9)$$

$$\log \frac{x + \alpha}{x - \alpha} = \frac{2\alpha}{x} + \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{\alpha^3}{x^3}. \quad (10)$$

By Taylor's theorem, § 98,

$$\sin(x + \beta) = \sin x + \beta \cos x - \frac{1}{2}\beta^2 \sin x - \frac{1}{6}\beta^3 \cos x + \dots$$

If the angle  $\beta$  is not greater than  $2\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ ,  $\beta < \cdot 044$ :  $\frac{1}{2}\beta^2 < \cdot 001$ ;  $\frac{1}{6}\beta^3 < \cdot 00001$ . But  $\sin x$  does not exceed unity, therefore, we may look upon

$$\sin(x + \beta) = \sin x + \beta \cos x,$$

correct up to three decimal places. The addition of another term “ $-\frac{1}{2}\beta^2$ ” will make the result correct to the fifth decimal place.

$$\sin \alpha = \alpha = \alpha(1 - \frac{1}{6}\alpha^2); \cos \alpha = 1 = 1 - \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2. \quad (11)$$

$$\sin(\alpha \pm \beta) = \sin \alpha \pm \beta \cos \alpha; \cos(\alpha \pm \beta) = \cos \alpha \pm \beta \sin \alpha. \quad (12)$$

$$\tan \alpha = \alpha = \alpha(1 + \frac{1}{3}\alpha^2); \tan(\alpha \pm \beta) = \tan \alpha \pm \beta \sec^2 \alpha. \quad (13)$$

EXAMPLE.—Show that the square root of the product of two small fractions is very nearly equal to half their sum. See (4). Hence, at sight,  
 $\sqrt{24.00092 \times 24.00098} = 24.00095.$

## § 190. Permutations and Combinations.

Each arrangement that can be made by varying the order of some or all of a number of things is called a permutation. For instance, there are two permutations of two things  $a$  and  $b$ , namely  $ab$  and  $ba$ ; a third thing can be added to each of these two permutations in three ways so that  $abc, acb, cab, bac, bca, cba$  results. The permutations of three things taken all together is, therefore,  $1 \times 2 \times 3$ ; a fourth thing can occupy four different places in each of these six permutations, or, there are  $1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4$  permutations when four different things are taken all together. More generally, the permutations of  $n$  things taken all together is

$$n(n-1)(n-2)\dots 3.2.1 = n!$$

$n!$  is called “factorial  $n$ ”.<sup>1</sup> It is generally written  $|n$ .

Using the customary notation  ${}_nP_n$  to denote the number of permutations of  $n$  things taken  $n$  at a time,

$$\text{number of things } P \text{ number of things taken} = {}_nP_n = n!$$

If some of these  $n$  things are alike, say  $p$  of one kind,  $q$  of another,  $r$  of another,

$${}_nP_n = \frac{n!}{p!q!r!} \quad (2)$$

If only  $r$  of the  $n$  things are taken in each set,

$${}_nP_r = n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(n-r+1) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} \quad (3)$$

Each set of arrangements which can be made by taking some or all of a number of things, without reference to the internal arrangement of the things in each group, is called a combination. In permutations, the variations, or the order of the arrangement of the different things, is considered; in combinations, attention is only paid to the presence or absence of a certain thing. The number of combinations of two things taken two at a time is one, because the set  $ab$  contains the same thing as  $ba$ . The number of combinations of three things taken two at a time is three, namely,  $ab, ca, bc$ ; of four things,  $ab, ac, ad, bc, bd, cd$ . But when each set consists of  $r$  things, each set can be arranged in  $r!$  different ways.

<sup>1</sup> It is worth remembering that  $n! = \Gamma(n+1)$ , the gamma function of § 136. When  $n$  is very great

$$n! = n^n e^{-n} \sqrt{2\pi n},$$

known as Stirling's formula. This allows  $n!$  to be evaluated by a table of logarithms. The error is of the order  $\frac{1}{2}n$  of the value of  $n!$

Let  ${}_nC_r$  denote the number of combinations of  $n$  things taken  $r$  at a time. We observe that the  ${}_nC_r$  combinations will produce  ${}_nC_r \times r!$  permutations. This is the same thing as the number of permutations of  $n$  things in sets of  $r$  things. Hence, by (3),

$${}_nC_r = \frac{{}_nP_r}{r!} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(n-r+1)}{r!} \quad (4)$$

$${}_nC_r = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} \quad (5)$$

Nearly all questions on arrangement and variety can be referred to the standard formulæ (3) and (5). Special cases are treated in any text-book on algebra. In spite of the great number of organic compounds continually pouring into the journals, chemists have, in reality, made no impression on the great number which might exist. To illustrate, Hatchett's (*Phil. Trans.*, 93, 193, 1803) has suggested that a systematic examination of all possible alloys of all the metals be made, proceeding from the binary to the more complicated ternary and quaternary. Did he realize the magnitude of the undertaking?

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that if one proportion of each of thirty metals be taken, 435 binary, 4,060 ternary and 27,405 quaternary alloys would have to be considered.

(2) If four proportions of each of thirty metals be employed, show that 6,655 binary, 247,660 ternary and 1,013,985 quaternary alloys would have to be investigated.

The number of possible isomers in the hydrocarbon series involving side chains, etc., are discussed in the following memoirs: Cayley (*Phil. Mag.* [4], 13, 172, 1857; 47, 444, 1874; or, *B. A. Reports*, 257, 1875) first opened up this question of side chains. See also O. J. Lodge (*Phil. Mag.*, [4], 50, 367, 1875), Losanitsch (*Ber.*, 30, 1,917, 1897), Hermann (*ib.*, 3,423), H. Rey (*ib.*, 33, 1,910, 1900), H. Kauffmann (*ib.*, 2,231).

## § 191. Mensuration Formulæ.

Reference has frequently been made to Euclid, i., 47—Pythagoras' theorem. In any right-angled triangle, say, Fig. 184,

Square on hypotenuse = Sum of squares on the other two sides. (1)  
Also to Euclid, vi., 4. If two triangles  $ABC$  and  $DEF$  are equiangular so that the angles at  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  of the one are respectively equal to the angles  $D$ ,  $E$ , and  $F$  of the other, the sides about the equal angles are proportional—Rule of similar triangles—so that

$$AB : BC = DE : EF; BC : CA = EF : FD; AB : AC = DE : DF.$$

$r = 3.1416$ , or,  $\frac{22}{7}$ , or,  $180^\circ$ ;  $\theta$  = degrees of arc;  $r$  denotes the radius of a circle.

### I. Lengths (arcs and perimeters).

$$\text{CHORD OF CIRCLE (angle subtended at centre } \theta) = 2r \sin \frac{1}{2}\theta. \quad (2)$$

$$\text{ARC OF CIRCLE (angle subtended } \theta) = \frac{\theta}{180} \pi r. \quad (3)$$

$$\text{PERIMETER OF CIRCLE} = 2\pi r = \pi \times \text{diameter}. \quad (4)$$

$$\text{PERIMETER OF ELLIPSE (semiaxes, } a, b) = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}(a^2 + b^2)}. \quad (5)$$

$$\text{TRIANGLE. } a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A. \quad (5a)$$





## IV. Volumes.

RECTANGULAR PARALLELOPIPED (sides  $a, b, c$ ) =  $a \cdot b \cdot c$ . (23)

SPHERE =  $\frac{2}{3}$  circumscribing cylinder;  
 $= \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 = 4.189r^3 = \frac{1}{6}\pi \text{ diameter}^3$ . } (24)

SPHERICAL SEGMENT (height  $h$ ) =  $\frac{1}{3}\pi(3r - h)h^2$ . . . . . (25)

CYLINDER OR PRISM = area of base  $\times$  height =  $\pi r^2 h$ . . . . . (26)

CONE OR PYRAMID =  $\frac{1}{3}$  circumscribing cylinder or prism;  
 $= \text{area of base} \times \frac{1}{3} \text{ height} = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h = 1.047r^2 h$ . } (27)

FRUSTUM OF RIGHT CIRCULAR CONE =  $\frac{1}{3}\pi h(a^2 + ab + b^2)$ .  
 $a$  and  $b$  are radii of circular ends. } (28)

**SIMILAR FIGURES.** The volumes of similar solids are as the cubes of corresponding sides. The volume of any solid figure is proportional to the cube of any linear dimension. *E.g.*, the volume of a sphere is proportional to the cube of its radius.

## V. Centres of Gravity.

**PLANE TRIANGULAR LAMINA.** Two-thirds the distance from the apex of the triangle to a point bisecting the base.

**CONE OR PYRAMID.** Three-fourths the distance from the apex to the centre of gravity of base.

Bayer's "strain theory" of carbon ring compounds has attracted some attention amongst organic chemists. It is based upon the assumption that the four valencies of a carbon atom act only in the directions of the lines joining the centre of gravity of the atom with the apices of a regular tetrahedron. In other words, the chemical attraction between any two such atoms is exerted only along these four directions. When several carbon atoms unite to form ring compounds, the "direction of the attraction" is deflected. This is attended by a proportional strain. The greater the strain, the less stable the compound. Apart from all questions as to the validity of the assumptions, we may find the angle of deflection of the "directions of attraction" for two to six ring compounds as an exercise in mensuration.

*I. To find the angle between these "directions of attraction" at the centre of a carbon atom assumed to have the form of a regular tetrahedron.* Let  $s$  be the slant height,

$AB$ , or  $BC$ , of a regular tetrahedron (Fig. 180);  $h = EC$ , the vertical height;  $l$ , the length of any edge,  $DC$  or  $AC$ ;  $\phi$ , the angle  $DOC$ , or  $AOC$ , made by the lines joining any two apices with the centre of the tetrahedron.  $\therefore s^2 + (\frac{1}{2}l)^2 = l^2$ ;  $s^2 = \frac{3}{4}l^2$ . But  $h$  divides  $s$  in the ratio 2:1, hence (§ 191),

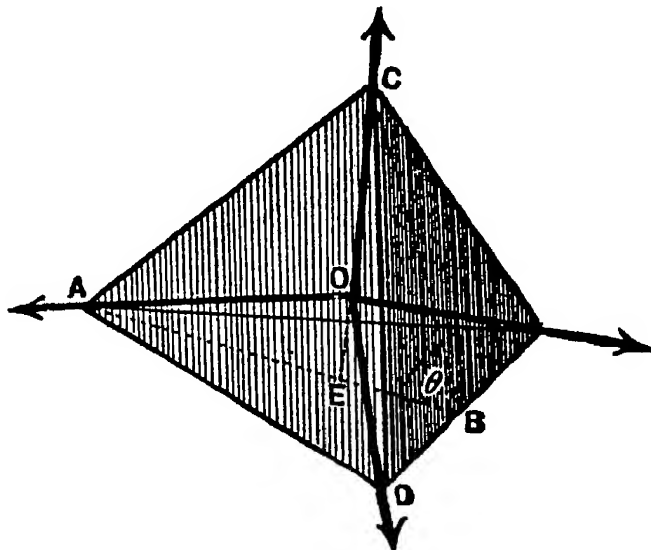


FIG. 180.

$h^2 = l^2 - (\frac{1}{2}s)^2 = \frac{3}{4}l^2$ . But  $CD = 2BD = l$ ;  $BC = AB = s$ ;  $CE = h$ . Hence,  $h = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}l^2}$ . From a result in V, above, the middle of the tetrahedron cuts  $CE$  at  $O$  in the ratio 3 : 1.

$$\therefore \sin \frac{1}{2}\phi = \frac{1}{2}AC \div OC = \frac{1}{2}l/\frac{3}{2}h; \text{ or, } \phi = 109^\circ 28'. \quad (29)$$

II. To find the angle of deflection of the "direction of attraction" when 2 to 6 carbon atoms form a closed ring. From (29), for *acetelyne*  $H_2C : CH_2$ , the angle is deflected from  $109^\circ 28'$  to  $\frac{1}{2}(109^\circ 28')$ , or  $55^\circ 44'$ . For *trimethylene*, assuming the ring is an equilateral triangle, the angle is deflected  $\frac{1}{2}(109^\circ 28' - 60^\circ) = 24^\circ 44'$ . For *tetramethylene*, assuming the ring is a square, the angle of deflection is  $\frac{1}{2}(109^\circ 28' - 90^\circ) = 9^\circ 34'$ . For *pentamethylene*, assuming the ring to be a regular pentagon, the angle of deflection is  $\frac{1}{2}(109^\circ 28' - 108^\circ)$ , or  $0^\circ 44'$ . For *hexamethylene*, assuming the ring is a regular hexagon, the angle of deflection is  $\frac{1}{2}(109^\circ 28' - 120^\circ)$ , or  $-5^\circ 76'$ .

The value of the angle  $\theta$ , in Fig. 180, is  $70^\circ 32'$ . See H. Sachse "On the Configuration of the Polymethylene Ring," *Zeit. phys. Chem.*, 10, 208, 1892.

## § 192. Plane Trigonometry.

Beginners in the calculus often trip over the trigonometrical work. The following outline will perhaps be of some assistance. Trigonometry deals with the relations between the sides and angles of triangles. If the triangle is drawn on a plane surface, we have plane trigonometry; if the triangle is drawn on the surface of a sphere, spherical trigonometry. The trigonometry employed in physics and chemistry is a mode of reasoning about lines and angles, or rather, about quantities represented by lines and angles (whether parts of a triangle or not), which is carried on by means of certain ratios or functions of an angle.

1. The measurement of angles. An angle is formed by the intersection of two lines. The magnitude of an angle depends only on the relative directions, or slopes of the lines, and is independent of their lengths. In practical work, angles are usually measured in degrees, minutes and seconds. These units are the subdivisions of a right-angle defined as

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ right angle} &= 90 \text{ degrees, written } 90^\circ; \\ 1 \text{ degree} &= 60 \text{ minutes, written } 60'; \\ 1 \text{ minute} &= 60 \text{ seconds, written } 60''. \end{aligned}$$

In theoretical calculations, however, this system is replaced by another. In Fig. 181, the length of the circular arcs  $P'A'$ ,  $PA$ , drawn from the centre  $O$ , are proportional to the lengths of the radii  $OA'$  and  $OA$ , or

$$\frac{\text{arc } P'A'}{\text{radius } OA'} = \frac{\text{arc } PA}{\text{radius } OA}.$$

If the angle at the centre  $O$  is constant, the ratio, arc/radius, is also constant. This ratio, therefore, furnishes a method for measuring the magnitude of an angle. The ratio

$$\frac{\text{arc}}{\text{radius}} = 1, \text{ is called a radian.}$$

$$\text{Two right angles} = 180^\circ = \pi \text{ radians, where } \pi = 180^\circ = 3.14159. \quad (1)$$

The ratio, arc/radius, is called the circular or radian measure of an angle. (Radian = unit angle.)

2. Relation between degrees and radians. The circumference of a circle of radius  $r$ , is  $2\pi r$ , or, if the radius is unity,  $2\pi$ . The angles  $360^\circ$ ,  $180^\circ$ ,  $90^\circ$ , ... correspond to the arcs whose lengths are respectively,  $2\pi$ ,  $\pi$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ , ... If the angle  $AOP$  (Fig. 181) measures  $D$  degrees, or  $a$  radians,

$$D^\circ : 360^\circ = a : 2\pi. \therefore D^\circ = \frac{a}{2\pi} 360; \text{ or, } a = \frac{D}{360} 2\pi. \quad (2)$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) How many degrees are contained in an arc of unit length? Here  $a = 1$ ,

$$\therefore D = \frac{360}{2\pi} = 57.295^\circ = 57^\circ 17' 44.8''. \quad (3)$$

(2) How many radians are there in  $1^\circ$ ? Ansr.  $\pi/180$ ; or, 0.0175.

(3) How many radians in  $2\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ ? Ansr. 0.044.

A table of the numerical relations between angles expressed in degrees and radians is given on pages 624 and 625.

3. Trigonometrical ratios of an angle as functions of the sides of a triangle. There are certain functions of the angles, or rather of the arc  $PA$  (Fig. 181)

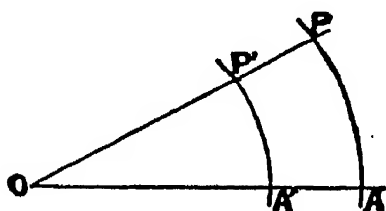


FIG. 181.

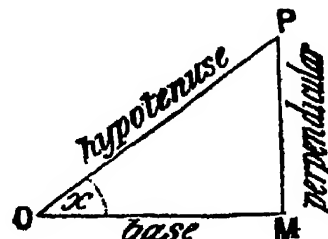


FIG. 182.

called trigonometrical ratios. From  $P$  drop the perpendicular  $PM$  on to  $OM$  (Fig. 182). In the triangle  $OPM$ ,

(i.) The ratio  $\frac{MP}{OM}$ , or,  $\frac{\text{perpendicular}}{\text{base}}$ , is called the tangent of the angle

$POM$ , and written,  $\tan POM$ .

It is necessary to show that *the magnitude of this ratio depends only on the magnitude of the angle  $POM$* , and is quite independent of the size of the triangle. Drop perpendiculars  $PM$  and  $P'M'$  from  $P$  and  $P'$  on to  $OA$  (Fig. 181). The two triangles  $POM$  and  $P'OM'$ , are equiangular and similar, therefore, as on page 603,  $M'P'/OM' = MP/OM$ .

(ii.) The ratio  $\frac{OM}{MP}$ , or,  $\frac{\text{base}}{\text{perpendicular}}$ , is called the cotangent of the angle  $POM$ , and written,  $\cot POM$ . Note that the cotangent of an angle is the reciprocal of its tangent.

(iii.) The ratio  $\frac{MP}{OP} = \frac{\text{perpendicular}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$ , is called the sine of the angle  $POM$ , and written,  $\sin POM$ .

(iv.) The ratio  $\frac{OP}{MP} = \frac{\text{hypotenuse}}{\text{perpendicular}}$ , is called the cosecant of the angle  $POM$ , and written,  $\text{cosec } POM$ . The cosecant of an angle is the reciprocal of its sine.

(v.) The ratio  $\frac{OM}{OP} = \frac{\text{base}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$ , is called the cosine of the angle  $POM$ , and written,  $\cos POM$ .

(vi.) The ratio  $\frac{OP}{OM} = \frac{\text{hypotenuse}}{\text{base}}$ , is called the secant of the angle  $POM$ , and written,  $\sec POM$ . The secant of an angle is the reciprocal of its cosine.

EXAMPLE.—If  $x$  be used in place of  $POM$ , show that

$$\sin x = \frac{1}{\operatorname{cosec} x}; \cot x = \frac{1}{\tan x}; \cos x = \frac{1}{\sec x}.$$

The squares of any of these ratios,  $(\sin x)^2$ ,  $(\cot x)^2$ , ..., are generally written  $\sin^2 x$ ,  $\cot^2 x$  ...;  $(\sin x)^{-1}$ ,  $(\cot x)^{-1}$ , ..., meaning  $\frac{1}{\sin x}$ ,  $\frac{1}{\cot x}$ , ..., cannot be written in the forms  $\sin^{-1} x$ ,  $\cot^{-1} x$ , ... because this latter symbol has a different meaning.

4. To find a numerical value for the trigonometrical ratios.

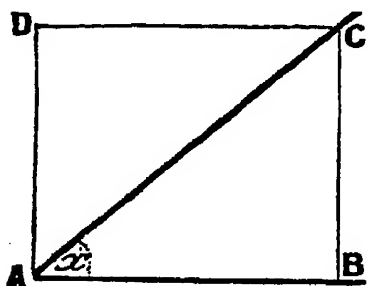


FIG. 183.

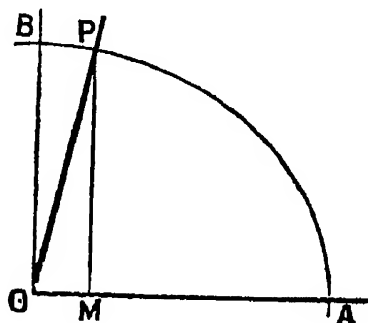


FIG. 184.

(i.)  $45^\circ$  or  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ . Draw a square  $ABCD$  (Fig. 183). Join  $AC$ . The angle  $BAC = \text{half a right angle} = 45^\circ$ . In the right-angled triangle  $BAC$  (Euclid, i., 47),

$$AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2.$$

Since  $AB$  and  $BC$  are the sides of a square,  $\therefore AB = BC$ , hence,

$$AC^2 = 2AB^2 = 2BC^2; \text{ or, } AC = \sqrt{2} \cdot AB = \sqrt{2} \cdot BC.$$

$$\therefore \sin 45^\circ = \frac{BC}{AC} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}; \cos 45^\circ = \frac{AB}{AC} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}; \tan 45^\circ = \frac{BC}{AB} = 1. \quad (4)$$

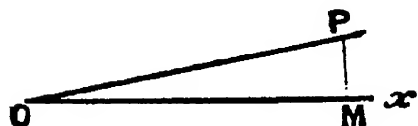


FIG. 185.

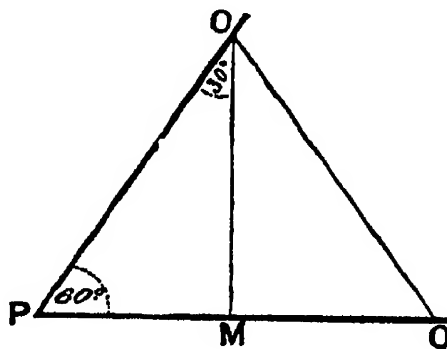


FIG. 186.

(ii.)  $90^\circ$  or  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ . In Fig. 184, if  $POM$  is a right-angled triangle, as  $M$  approaches  $O$ , the angle  $MOP$  approaches  $90^\circ$ . When  $MP$  coincides with  $OB$ ,  $OP = MP$ , and  $OM = \text{zero}$ .

$$\therefore \sin 90^\circ = \frac{MP}{OP} = 1; \cos 90^\circ = \frac{OM}{OP} = 0; \tan 90^\circ = \frac{MP}{OM} = \infty. \quad (5)$$

(iii.)  $0^\circ$ . In Fig. 185 as the angle  $MOP$  becomes smaller,  $OP$  approaches  $OM$ , and at the limit coincides with it. Hence,  $PM=0$ ;  $OM=OP$ .

$$\therefore \sin 0^\circ = \frac{MP}{OP} = 0; \cos 0^\circ = \frac{OM}{OP} = 1; \tan 0^\circ = \frac{MP}{OM} = 0. \quad (6)$$

(iv.)  $60^\circ$  or  $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ . In the equilateral triangle (Fig. 186), each of the three angles is equal to  $60^\circ$ . Drop the perpendicular  $OM$  on to  $PQ$ . Then

$$2PM=PQ=PO.$$

By Euclid, i., 47,

$$PO^2 = MP^2 + MO^2. \therefore 4PM^2 = MO^2 + PM^2; \text{ or } MO^2 = 3PM^2.$$

$$\therefore MO = \sqrt{3} \cdot PM; \text{ angle } MPO = 60^\circ.$$

$$\therefore \sin 60^\circ = \frac{MO}{PO} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}; \cos 60^\circ = \frac{PM}{PO} = \frac{1}{2}; \tan 60^\circ = \frac{MO}{PM} = \sqrt{3}. \quad (7)$$

(v.)  $30^\circ$  or  $\frac{1}{3}\pi$ . Using the preceding results,

$$\therefore \sin 30^\circ = \frac{MP}{OP} = \frac{1}{2}; \cos 30^\circ = \frac{MO}{OP} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}; \tan 30^\circ = \frac{MP}{OM} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}. \quad (8)$$

The following table summarizes these results:

TABLE XIV.—NUMERICAL VALUES OF THE TRIGONOMETRICAL RATIOS.

Angle.	$0^\circ$ to $360^\circ$ .	$30^\circ$ .	$45^\circ$ .	$60^\circ$ .	$90^\circ$ .	$180^\circ$ .	$270^\circ$ .
sine	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	1	0	-1
cosine	1	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	-1	0
tangent	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$	1	$\sqrt{3}$	$\infty$	0	$\infty$

To these might be added  $\sin 15^\circ = (\sqrt{3}-1)/2\sqrt{2}$ ;  $\sin 18^\circ = \frac{1}{4}(\sqrt{5}-1)$ . See also page 608.

It must be clearly understood that although an angle is always measured in the degree-minute-second system, the numerical equivalent in radian or circular measure is employed in the calculations, unless special provision has been made for the direct introduction of degrees. This was done in example (6), page 544 (*q.v.*). Suppose that we have occasion to employ the approximation formula

$$\sin(x+\theta) = \sin x + \theta \cos x,$$

of § 189, and that  $x=35^\circ$  and  $\theta=50''$ . The Tables of Natural Sines, Cosines, Tangents, and their reciprocals, will furnish the numerical values of  $\sin 35^\circ$  and  $\cos 35^\circ$ , but  $\theta$  must be converted into radian measure. Hence show that

$$\sin(x+\theta) = \sin 35^\circ + \frac{0.00926 \times \pi}{180} \cos 35^\circ.$$

Hint.  $50'' = (\frac{5}{18})' = (\frac{5}{18} \times \frac{1}{60})^\circ = 0.00926^\circ$ . The numerical values of  $\sin 35^\circ$  and

of  $\cos 35^\circ$  to four decimal places are respectively 0.5736 and 0.8192. The value of  $\sin(x+\theta)$  is, therefore, .5737.

5. Conventions as to the sign of the trigonometrical ratios. This subject has been treated on page 123. In the following table, these results are summarized. The change in the value of the ratio as it passes through the four quadrants is also given.

TABLE XV.—SIGNS OF THE TRIGONOMETRICAL RATIOS.

If the Angle is in Quadrant.	$\sin x$ .	$\cos x$ .	$\tan x$ .	$\cot x$ .	$\sec x$ .	$\operatorname{cosec} x$ .
I. {sign value	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ 0 \text{ to } 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ 1 \text{ to } 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ 0 \text{ to } \infty \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ \infty \text{ to } 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ 1 \text{ to } \infty \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ \infty \text{ to } 1 \end{array}$
II. {sign value	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ 1 \text{ to } 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ 0 \text{ to } 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ \infty \text{ to } 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ 0 \text{ to } \infty \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ \infty \text{ to } 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ 1 \text{ to } \infty \end{array}$
III. {sign value	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ 0 \text{ to } 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ 1 \text{ to } 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ 0 \text{ to } \infty \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ \infty \text{ to } 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ 1 \text{ to } \infty \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ \infty \text{ to } 1 \end{array}$
IV. {sign value	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ 1 \text{ to } 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ 0 \text{ to } 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ \infty \text{ to } 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ 0 \text{ to } \infty \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \\ \infty \text{ to } 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - \\ 1 \text{ to } \infty \end{array}$

6. Trigonometrical ratios of the supplement of an angle. The angle is  $180^\circ - x$ , or  $\pi - x$ , is called the supplement of the angle  $x$ . In Fig. 187, let  $MOP = x$ , produce  $OM$  to  $M'$ . Then the angle  $MOP'$  is the supplement of  $x$ . Make the angle  $P'OM' = MOP$ . Let  $OP' = OP$ . Drop perpendiculars  $P'M'$  and  $PM$  on to  $BA$ . The triangles  $OPM$  and  $OP'M'$  are equal in all respects. If  $OM$  is positive,  $OM'$  is negative

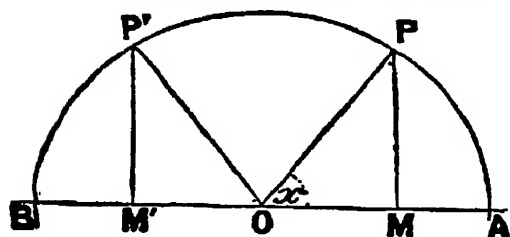


FIG. 187.

$\therefore M'P' = MP$ ; and  $OM' = -OM$ .

$$\sin(180^\circ - x) = \sin(\pi - x) = \sin POM' = \sin M'OP = \sin x.$$

$$\cos(180^\circ - x) = -\cos x; \tan(180^\circ - x) = -\tan x.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Find the value of  $\sin 120^\circ$ .

$$\sin 120^\circ = \sin(180^\circ - 60^\circ) = \sin 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}/2.$$

(2) Evaluate  $\tan 120^\circ$ . Ansr.  $-\sqrt{3}$ .

7. Trigonometrical ratios of the complement of an angle. The angle  $90^\circ - x$ , or  $\frac{1}{2}\pi - x$ , is called the complement of  $x$ . In Fig. 188,  $PN$  and  $PM$  are perpendiculars on  $OB$  and on  $OA$  respectively. Then  $OM = NP$ ,  $ON = MP$ .

$$\sin(90^\circ - x) = \sin(\frac{1}{2}\pi - x) = \sin NOP = \frac{NP}{OP} = \frac{OM}{OP} = \cos x.$$

$$\cos(90^\circ - x) = \sin x; \tan(90^\circ - x) = \cot x; \cot(90^\circ - x) = \tan x.$$

8. To prove that  $\sin x / \cos x = \tan x$ .

$$\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = \frac{MP}{OP} \div \frac{OM}{OP} = \frac{MP}{OP} \times \frac{OP}{OM} = \frac{MP}{OM} = \tan x.$$

9. To prove that  $\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$ . In Fig. 189, by Euclid, i., 47,  $OP^2 = MP^2 + OM^2$ . Divide through by  $OP^2$ , and

$$1 = \frac{OP^2}{OP^2} = \frac{MP^2}{OP^2} + \frac{OM^2}{OP^2} = \left(\frac{MP}{OP}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{OM}{OP}\right)^2. \therefore \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1.$$

10. To show that  $\sin(x+y) = \sin x \cdot \cos y + \cos x \cdot \sin y$ . In Fig. 189,  $PQ$  is perpendicular to  $OQ$ , the angle  $HPQ = \text{angle } NOQ$  (Euclid, i., 15 and 32)

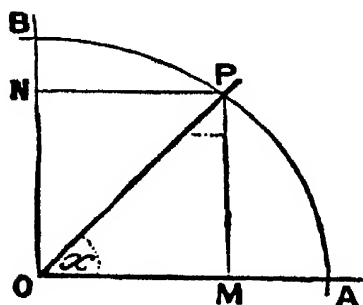


FIG. 188.

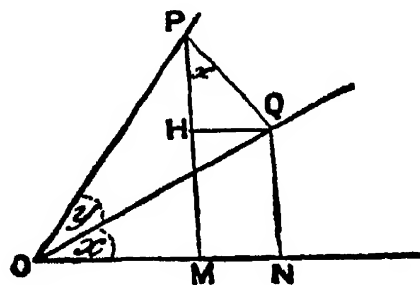


FIG. 189.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \sin(x+y) &= \frac{MP}{OP} = \frac{PH}{OP} + \frac{QN}{OP} = \frac{PH}{PQ} \cdot \frac{PQ}{OP} + \frac{NQ}{OQ} \cdot \frac{OQ}{OP}; \\ &= \sin x \cdot \cos y + \cos x \cdot \sin y. \end{aligned}$$

11. Summary of trigonometrical formulæ (for reference). The above definitions lead to the following relations, which form routine exercises in elementary trigonometry. Most of them may be established geometrically as in the preceding illustrations:

Note:  $\pi = 180^\circ$ ; or, 3.14159 radians; one radian =  $57.2958^\circ$ .

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi + x\right) &= \cos x; & \cos\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi - x\right) &= \sin x; \\ \operatorname{cosec}\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi - x\right) &= \sec x; & \sec\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi - x\right) &= \operatorname{cosec} x; \\ \tan\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi - x\right) &= \cot x; & \cot\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi - x\right) &= \tan x. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (9)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sin(\pi - x) &= \sin x; & \cos(\pi - x) &= -\cos x; \\ \tan(\pi - x) &= -\tan x; & \cot(\pi - x) &= -\cot x. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (10)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi + x\right) &= \cos x; & \cos\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi + x\right) &= -\sin x; \\ \tan\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi + x\right) &= -\cot x; & \cot\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi + x\right) &= -\tan x. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (11)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sin(\pi + x) &= -\sin x; & \cos(\pi + x) &= -\cos x; \\ \tan(\pi + x) &= \tan x; & \cot(\pi + x) &= \cot x. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (12)$$

$$\sin(-x) = -\sin x; \quad \cos(-x) = \cos x; \quad \tan(-x) = -\tan x. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (13)$$

$$L_{t_{x=0}} \frac{\sin x}{x} = \frac{\tan x}{x} = \cos x = 1; \quad \frac{\sin^{-1} x}{x} = \frac{\tan^{-1} x}{x} = 1. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (14)$$

When  $n$  is any negative or positive integer or zero.

$$\sin x = \sin\{n\pi + (-1)^n x\}. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (15)$$

$$\cos x = \cos(2n\pi \pm x). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (16)$$

$$\tan x = \tan(n\pi + x). \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (17)$$

$$\tan x = \sin x / \cos x; \quad \cot x = \cos x / \sin x. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (18)$$

$$\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1. \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (19)$$

QQ \*



$$\sin x = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 x}; \cos x = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 x}. \quad (20)$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} x = \sqrt{1 + \cot^2 x}; \sec x = \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 x}. \quad (21)$$

$$\sin x = \frac{\tan x}{\sqrt{1 + \tan^2 x}}; \cos x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \tan^2 x}}. \quad (22)$$

$$\sin(x \pm y) = \sin x \cdot \cos y \pm \cos x \cdot \sin y. \quad (23)$$

$$\cos(x \pm y) = \cos x \cdot \cos y \mp \sin x \cdot \sin y. \quad (24)$$

$$\sin(x + y) + \sin(x - y) = 2 \sin x \cdot \cos y. \quad (25)$$

$$\sin(x + y) - \sin(x - y) = 2 \cos x \cdot \sin y. \quad (26)$$

$$\cos(x + y) + \cos(x - y) = 2 \cos x \cdot \cos y. \quad (27)$$

$$\cos(x + y) - \cos(x - y) = -2 \sin x \cdot \sin y. \quad (28)$$

If  $x = y$ , from (23) and (24),

$$\sin 2x = 2 \sin x \cdot \cos x. \quad (29)$$

$$\cos 2x = \cos^2 x - \sin^2 x. \quad (30)$$

$$= 2 \cos^2 x - 1. \quad (31)$$

$$= 1 - 2 \sin^2 x. \quad (32)$$

$$\sin x = 2 \sin \frac{1}{2}x \cdot \cos \frac{1}{2}x. \quad (33)$$

$$\cos x = 2 \cos^2 \frac{1}{2}x - 1; \text{ or, } 1 + \cos x = 2 \cos^2 \frac{1}{2}x. \quad (34)$$

$$= 1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{1}{2}x; \text{ or, } 1 - \cos x = 2 \sin^2 \frac{1}{2}x. \quad (35)$$

$$\sin 3x = 3 \sin x - 4 \sin^3 x. \quad (36)$$

$$\cos 3x = 4 \cos^3 x - 3 \cos x. \quad (37)$$

If in (25) to (28), we suppose  $x + y = \alpha$ ;  $x - y = \beta$ ;  $x = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta)$ ;  $y = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta)$ .

Now put  $x$  for  $\alpha$ , and  $y$  for  $\beta$ , for the sake of uniformity. Thus,

$$\sin x + \sin y = 2 \sin \frac{1}{2}(x + y) \cdot \cos \frac{1}{2}(x - y). \quad (38)$$

$$\sin x - \sin y = 2 \cos \frac{1}{2}(x + y) \cdot \sin \frac{1}{2}(x - y). \quad (39)$$

$$\cos x + \cos y = 2 \cos \frac{1}{2}(x + y) \cdot \cos \frac{1}{2}(x - y). \quad (40)$$

$$\cos x - \cos y = -2 \sin \frac{1}{2}(x + y) \cdot \sin \frac{1}{2}(x - y). \quad (41)$$

By division of the proper formulæ above,

$$\tan(x + y) = \frac{\tan x + \tan y}{1 - \tan x \cdot \tan y}. \quad (42)$$

$$\tan(x - y) = \frac{\tan x - \tan y}{1 + \tan x \cdot \tan y}. \quad (43)$$

$$\tan 2x = \frac{2 \tan x}{1 - \tan^2 x}. \quad (44)$$

$$\tan x \pm \tan y = \frac{\sin(x \pm y)}{\cos x \cdot \cos y}. \quad (45)$$

$$\cot x \pm \cot y = \frac{\sin(x \pm y)}{\sin x \cdot \sin y}. \quad (46)$$

$$\cos \frac{1}{2}x = \sqrt{\frac{1 + \cos x}{2}}; \sin \frac{1}{2}x = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos x}{2}}; \tan \frac{1}{2}x = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos x}{1 + \cos x}}. \quad (47)$$

### § 193. Relations among the Hyperbolic Functions.

$$\cos x = \cosh ix = \frac{1}{2}(e^{ix} + e^{-ix}). \quad (1)$$

$$\sin x = \frac{1}{i} \sinh ix = \frac{1}{2i}(e^{ix} - e^{-ix}). \quad (2)$$

$$\cos x + i \sin x = \cosh ix + \sinh ix = e^{ix}. \quad (3)$$

$$\cos x - i \sin x = \cosh ix - \sinh ix = e^{-ix}. \quad (4)$$

$$\cosh x = \cos ix; \sinh x = \sin ix. \quad (5)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \tanh x &= \sinh x / \cosh x; \coth x = \cosh x / \sinh x, \\ \operatorname{cosech} x &= 1 / \sinh x; \operatorname{sech} x = 1 / \cosh x. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (6)$$

$$\cosh 0 = 1; \sinh 0 = 0; \tanh 0 = 0. \quad (7)$$

$$\cosh (\pm \infty) = +\infty; \sinh (\pm \infty) = \pm \infty; \tanh (\pm \infty) = \pm 1. \quad (8)$$

$$Lt_{x=0} \frac{\sinh x}{x} = 1; Lt_{x=0} \frac{\tanh x}{x} = 1; Lt_{x=0} \frac{\cosh x}{x} = 1. \quad (9)$$

$$\sinh (-x) = -\sinh x; \cosh (-x) = \cosh x; \tanh (-x) = -\tanh x. \quad (10)$$

$$\sinh (x \pm y) = \sinh x \cdot \cosh y \pm \cosh x \cdot \sinh y. \quad (11)$$

$$\cosh (x \pm y) = \cosh x \cdot \cosh y \pm \sinh x \cdot \sinh y. \quad (12)$$

$$\tanh (x \pm y) = \frac{\tanh x \pm \tanh y}{1 \pm \tanh x \cdot \tanh y}. \quad (13)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \cosh (x + iy) &= \cosh x \cdot \cosh iy + \sinh x \cdot \sinh iy; \\ &= \cosh x \cdot \cos y + i \sinh x \cdot \sin y. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (14)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sinh (x + iy) &= \sinh x \cdot \cosh iy + \cosh x \cdot \sinh iy; \\ &= \sinh x \cdot \cos y + i \cosh x \cdot \sin y. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (15)$$

$$\sinh x + \sinh y = 2 \sinh \frac{1}{2}(x+y) \cdot \cosh \frac{1}{2}(x-y). \quad (16)$$

$$\sinh x - \sinh y = 2 \cosh \frac{1}{2}(x+y) \cdot \sinh \frac{1}{2}(x-y). \quad (17)$$

$$\cosh x + \cosh y = 2 \cosh \frac{1}{2}(x+y) \cdot \cosh \frac{1}{2}(x-y). \quad (18)$$

$$\cosh x - \cosh y = 2 \sinh \frac{1}{2}(x+y) \cdot \sinh \frac{1}{2}(x-y). \quad (19)$$

$$\sinh 2x = 2 \sinh x \cdot \cosh x = 2 \tanh x / (1 - \tanh^2 x). \quad (20)$$

$$\cosh 2x = \cosh^2 x + \sinh^2 x; \quad (21)$$

$$= 1 + 2 \sinh^2 x = 2 \cosh^2 x - 1; \quad (22)$$

$$= (1 + \tanh^2 x) / (1 - \tanh^2 x). \quad (23)$$

$$\cosh x + 1 = 2 \cosh^2 \frac{1}{2}x; \cosh x - 1 = 2 \sinh^2 \frac{1}{2}x. \quad (24)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \tanh \frac{1}{2}x &= \sinh x / (1 + \cosh x); \\ &= (\cosh x - 1) / \sinh x. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (25)$$

$$\sinh^2 x - \cosh^2 x = -1. \quad (26)$$

$$1 - \tanh^2 x = \operatorname{sech}^2 x; \coth^2 x - 1 = \operatorname{cosech}^2 x. \quad (27)$$

$$\cosh x = 1 / \sqrt{1 - \tanh^2 x}; \sinh x = \tanh x / \sqrt{1 - \tanh^2 x}. \quad (28)$$

$$\sinh 3x = 3 \sinh x + 4 \sinh^3 x. \quad (29)$$

$$\cosh 3x = 4 \cosh^3 x - 3 \cosh x. \quad (30)$$

*Inverse hyperbolic functions.* If  $\sinh^{-1} y = x$ , then  $y = \sinh x$ . Since  $y = \sinh x = \frac{1}{2}(e^x - e^{-x})$ ;  $\therefore e^{2x} - 2ye^x - 1 = 0$ ;  $\therefore e^x = y \pm \sqrt{y^2 + 1}$ .

For real values of  $x$  the negative sign is excluded from  $\sinh^{-1} x$ .

$$\therefore \sinh^{-1} x = \log \{y + \sqrt{y^2 + 1}\}; \cosh^{-1} y = \log \{y \pm \sqrt{y^2 - 1}\}. \quad (31)$$

$$\tanh^{-1} y = \frac{1}{2} \log \{(1+y)/(1-y)\}; \coth^{-1} y = \frac{1}{2} \log \{(y+1)/(y-1)\}. \quad (32)$$

$$\operatorname{sech}^{-1} y = \log \{(1 + \sqrt{1 - y^2})/y\}; \operatorname{cosech}^{-1} y = \log \{(1 - \sqrt{1 + y^2})/y\}. \quad (33)$$

*Gudermannians.* In Fig. 138, page 347,

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \operatorname{sech} x; \cos \theta = \operatorname{sech} x; \sec \theta = \cosh x. \quad (34)$$

$$e^\theta = \cos \theta + \sinh x = \sec \theta + \tan \theta. \quad (35)$$

$$\theta = \log (\sec \theta \tan \theta) = \log \tan (\frac{1}{2}\pi + \frac{1}{2}\theta). \quad (36)$$

$$\tanh \frac{1}{2}x = \tan \frac{1}{2}\theta. \quad (37)$$

when  $\theta$  is connected with  $x$  by any of these relations  $\theta$  is said to be the gudermannian of  $x$  and is written  $\operatorname{gd} x$ .

Analogous to Demoivre's theorem

$$(\cosh x \pm \sinh x)^n = \cosh nx \pm \sinh nx. \quad (38)$$

It is instructive to compare the above formulæ with the corresponding trigonometrical functions in § 192. The analogy is also brought out by tabulating corresponding indefinite integrals in Tables I. and III., side by side. A few additional integrals are here given to be verified and then added to the table of indefinite integrals which the student has been advised to compile for his own use.

TABLE XVI.—HYPERBOLIC AND TRIGONOMETRICAL FUNCTIONS.

Hyperbolic.	Trigonometrical.
$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 + a^2}} = \sinh^{-1} \frac{x}{a}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} = \sin^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \quad (39)$
$\int \frac{dx}{\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}} = \cosh^{-1} \frac{x}{a}.$	$\int \frac{-dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} = \cos^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \quad (40)$
$\int \frac{dx}{a^2 - x^2} = \frac{1}{a} \tanh^{-1} \frac{x}{a},$ when $x < a$ . When $x > a$ ,	$\int \frac{dx}{a^2 + x^2} = \frac{1}{a} \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \quad (41)$
$\int \frac{-dx}{x^2 - a^2} = \frac{1}{a} \coth^{-1} \frac{x}{a}.$	$\int \frac{-dx}{a^2 + x^2} = \frac{1}{a} \cot^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \quad (42)$
$\int \frac{-dx}{x\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} = \frac{1}{a} \operatorname{sech}^{-1} \frac{x}{a}.$	$\int \frac{dx}{x\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}} = \frac{1}{a} \sec^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \quad (43)$
$\int \frac{-dx}{x\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}} = \frac{1}{a} \operatorname{cosech}^{-1} \frac{x}{a}.$	$\int \frac{-dx}{x\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}} = \frac{1}{a} \operatorname{cosec}^{-1} \frac{x}{a}. \quad (44)$
$\int \operatorname{sech} x \cdot dx = \operatorname{gd} x.$	$\int \sec x \cdot dx = \operatorname{gd}^{-1} x. \quad (45)$

Numerical values of the hyperbolic functions may be computed by means of the series formulæ.

## APPENDIX II.

### REFERENCE TABLES.

“The human mind is seldom satisfied, and is certainly never exercising its highest functions, when it is doing the work of a calculating machine.”—J. C. MAXWELL.

THE results of old arithmetical operations most frequently required are registered in the form of mathematical tables. The use of such tables not only prevents the wasting of time and energy on a repetition of old operations but also conduces to more accurate work, since there is less liability to error once accurate tables have been compiled. Most of the following tables have been referred to in different parts of this work, and are reproduced here because they are not usually found in the smaller current sets of “Mathematical Tables”. Besides those here you ought to have “Tables of Reciprocals, Squares, Cubes and Roots,” “Tables of Logarithms of Numbers to base 10,” “Tables of Trigonometrical Sines, Cosines and Tangents” for natural angles and logarithms of the same. See page xix. of the Introduction.

#### Table I.—Singular Values of Functions.

(Page 168.)

#### Table II.—Standard Integrals.

(Page 193.)

#### Table III.—Standard Integrals (*Hyperbolic functions.*)

(Pages 349 and 614.)

Table IV.—Numerical Values of the Hyperbolic Sines, Cosines,  $e^x$ , and  $e^{-x}$ .

$x$ .	$e^x$ .	$e^{-x}$ .	$\cosh x$ .	$\sinh x$ .	$x$ .	$e^x$ .	$e^{-x}$ .	$\cosh x$ .	$\sinh x$ .
0.00	1.00000	1.00000	1.00000	.00000	0.40	1.49182	0.67032	1.08107	0.41075
.01	1.01005	.99005	1.00005	.01000	.41	1.50682	.66365	1.08523	.42158
.02	1.02021	.98020	1.00020	.02000	.42	1.52196	.65705	1.08950	.43246
.03	1.03045	.97045	1.00045	.03000	.43	1.53726	.65051	1.09388	.44337
.04	1.04081	.96080	1.00080	.04001	.44	1.55271	.64404	1.09837	.45434
.05	1.05127	.95123	1.00125	.05002	.45	1.56831	.63763	1.10297	.46534
.06	1.06184	.94177	1.00180	.06004	.46	1.58407	.63128	1.10768	.47640
.07	1.07251	.93239	1.00245	.07006	.47	1.59999	.62500	1.11250	.48750
.08	1.08329	.92312	1.00320	.08009	.48	1.61607	.61878	1.11743	.49865
.09	1.09417	.91393	1.00405	.09012	.49	1.63232	.61263	1.12247	.50985
.10	1.10517	.90484	1.00500	.10017	.50	1.64872	.60653	1.12763	.52110
.11	1.11628	.89583	1.00606	.11022	.51	1.66529	.60050	1.13289	.53240
.12	1.12750	.88692	1.00721	.12029	.52	1.68203	.59452	1.13827	.54375
.13	1.13883	.87810	1.00846	.13037	.53	1.69893	.58860	1.14377	.55516
.14	1.15027	.86936	1.00982	.14046	.54	1.71601	.58275	1.14938	.56663
.15	1.16183	.86071	1.01127	.15056	.55	1.73325	.57695	1.15510	.57815
.16	1.17351	.85214	1.01285	.16068	.56	1.75067	.57121	1.16094	.58973
.17	1.18530	.84366	1.01448	.17082	.57	1.76827	.56553	1.16690	.60137
.18	1.19722	.83527	1.01624	.18097	.58	1.78604	.55990	1.17297	.61307
.19	1.20925	.82696	1.01810	.19115	.59	1.80399	.55433	1.17916	.62483
.20	1.22140	.81873	1.02007	.20134	.60	1.82212	.54881	1.18547	.63665
.21	1.23368	.81058	1.02213	.21155	.61	1.84043	.54335	1.19189	.64854
.22	1.24608	.80252	1.02430	.22178	.62	1.85893	.53794	1.19844	.66049
.23	1.25860	.79453	1.02657	.23203	.63	1.87761	.53259	1.20510	.67251
.24	1.27125	.78663	1.02894	.24231	.64	1.89648	.52729	1.21189	.68459
.25	1.28403	.77880	1.03141	.25261	.65	1.91554	.52205	1.21879	.69675
.26	1.29693	.77105	1.03399	.26294	.66	1.93479	.51685	1.22582	.70897
.27	1.30996	.76338	1.03667	.27329	.67	1.95424	.51171	1.23297	.72126
.28	1.32313	.75578	1.03946	.28367	.68	1.97388	.50662	1.24025	.73363
.29	1.33643	.74826	1.04235	.29408	.69	1.99372	.50158	1.24765	.74607
.30	1.34986	.74082	1.04534	.30452	.70	2.01375	.49659	1.25517	.75858
.31	1.36343	.73345	1.04844	.31499	.71	2.03399	.49164	1.26282	.77117
.32	1.37713	.72615	1.05164	.32549	.72	2.05443	.48675	1.27059	.78384
.33	1.39097	.71892	1.05495	.33602	.73	2.07508	.48191	1.27850	.79659
.34	1.40495	.71177	1.05836	.34659	.74	2.09594	.47711	1.28652	.80941
.35	1.41907	.70469	1.06188	.35719	.75	2.11700	.47237	1.29468	.82232
.36	1.43333	.69768	1.06550	.36783	.76	2.13828	.46767	1.30297	.83530
.37	1.44773	.69073	1.06923	.37850	.77	2.15977	.46301	1.31139	.84838
.38	1.46228	.68386	1.07307	.38921	.78	2.18147	.45841	1.31994	.86153
.39	1.47698	.67706	1.07702	.39996	.79	2.20340	.45384	1.32862	.87478

Table IV.—Continued.

$x$ .	$e^x$ .	$e^{-x}$ .	$\cosh x$ .	$\sinh x$ .	$x$ .	$e^x$ .	$e^{-x}$ .	$\cosh x$ .	$\sinh x$ .
.80	2.22554	.44933	1.33743	.88811	1.20	3.32012	.30119	1.81066	1.50946
.81	2.24791	.44486	1.34638	.90152	1.21	3.35348	.29820	1.82584	1.52764
.82	2.27050	.44043	1.35547	.91503	1.22	3.38719	.29523	1.84121	1.54598
.83	2.29332	.43605	1.36468	.92863	1.23	3.42123	.29229	1.85676	1.56447
.84	2.31637	.43171	1.37404	.94233	1.24	3.45561	.28938	1.87250	1.58311
.85	2.33965	.42741	1.38353	.95612	1.25	3.49034	.28650	1.88842	1.60192
.86	2.36316	.42316	1.39316	.97000	1.26	3.52542	.28365	1.90454	1.62088
.87	2.38691	.41895	1.40293	.98398	1.27	3.56085	.28083	1.92084	1.64001
.88	2.41090	.41478	1.41284	.99806	1.28	3.59664	.27804	1.93734	1.65930
.89	2.43513	.41066	1.42289	1.01224	1.29	3.63279	.27527	1.95403	1.67876
.90	2.45960	.40657	1.43309	1.02652	1.30	3.66930	.27253	1.97091	1.69838
.91	2.48432	.40252	1.44342	1.04090	1.31	3.70617	.26982	1.98800	1.71818
.92	2.50929	.39852	1.45390	1.05539	1.32	3.74342	.26714	2.00528	1.73814
.93	2.53451	.39455	1.46453	1.06998	1.33	3.78104	.26448	2.02276	1.75828
.94	2.55998	.39063	1.47530	1.08468	1.34	3.81904	.26185	2.04044	1.77860
.95	2.58571	.38674	1.48623	1.09948	1.35	3.85743	.25924	2.05833	1.79909
.96	2.61170	.38289	1.49729	1.11440	1.36	3.89619	.25666	2.07643	1.81977
.97	2.63794	.37908	1.50851	1.12943	1.37	3.93535	.25411	2.09473	1.84062
.98	2.66446	.37531	1.51988	1.14457	1.38	3.97490	.25158	2.11324	1.86166
.99	2.69123	.37158	1.53141	1.15983	1.39	4.01485	.24908	2.13196	1.88289
1.00	2.71828	.36788	1.54308	1.17520	1.40	4.05520	.24660	2.15090	1.90430
1.01	2.74560	.36422	1.55491	1.19069	1.41	4.09596	.24414	2.17005	1.92591
1.02	2.77319	.36059	1.56689	1.20630	1.42	4.13712	.24171	2.18942	1.94770
1.03	2.80107	.35701	1.57904	1.22203	1.43	4.17870	.23931	2.20900	1.96970
1.04	2.82922	.35345	1.59134	1.23788	1.44	4.22070	.23693	2.22881	1.99188
1.05	2.85765	.34994	1.60379	1.25386	1.45	4.26311	.23457	2.24884	2.01428
1.06	2.88637	.34646	1.61641	1.26996	1.46	4.30596	.23224	2.26910	2.03686
1.07	2.91538	.34301	1.62919	1.28619	1.47	4.34924	.22993	2.28958	2.05965
1.08	2.94468	.33960	1.64214	1.30254	1.48	4.39295	.22764	2.31029	2.08265
1.09	2.97427	.33622	1.65525	1.31903	1.49	4.43710	.22537	2.33123	2.10586
1.10	3.00417	.33287	1.66852	1.33565	1.50	4.48169	.22313	2.35241	2.12928
1.11	3.03436	.32956	1.68196	1.35240	1.51	4.52673	.22091	2.37382	2.15291
1.12	3.06485	.32628	1.69557	1.36929	1.52	4.57223	.21871	2.39547	2.17676
1.13	3.09566	.32303	1.70934	1.38631	1.53	4.61818	.21654	2.41736	2.20082
1.14	3.12677	.31981	1.72329	1.40347	1.54	4.66459	.21438	2.43949	2.22510
1.15	3.15819	.31664	1.73741	1.42078	1.55	4.71147	.21225	2.46186	2.24961
1.16	3.18993	.31349	1.75171	1.43822	1.56	4.75882	.21014	2.48448	2.27434
1.17	3.22199	.31037	1.76618	1.45581	1.57	4.80665	.20805	2.50735	2.29930
1.18	3.25437	.30728	1.78083	1.47355	1.58	4.85496	.20598	2.53047	2.32449
1.19	3.28708	.30422	1.79565	1.49143	1.59	4.90375	.20393	2.55384	2.34991

Table IV.—Continued.

$x$ .	$e^x$ .	$e^{-x}$ .	$\cosh x$ .	$\sinh x$ .	$x$ .	$e^x$ .	$e^{-x}$ .	$\cosh x$ .	$\sinh x$ .
1.60	4.95303	.20190	2.57746	2.37557	2.0	7.38906	.13534	3.76220	3.62686
1.61	5.00281	.19989	2.60135	2.40146	2.1	8.16617	.12246	4.14431	4.02186
1.62	5.05309	.19790	2.62549	2.42760	2.2	9.02501	.11080	4.56791	4.45711
1.63	5.10387	.19593	2.64990	2.45397	2.3	9.97418	.10026	5.03722	4.93696
1.64	5.15517	.19398	2.67457	2.48059	2.4	11.0232	.09072	5.55695	5.46623
1.65	5.20698	.19205	2.69951	2.50746	2.5	12.1825	.08208	6.13229	6.05020
1.66	5.25931	.19014	2.72472	2.53459	2.6	13.4637	.07427	6.76900	6.69473
1.67	5.31217	.18825	2.75021	2.56196	2.7	14.8797	.06721	7.47347	7.40626
1.68	5.36556	.18637	2.77596	2.58959	2.8	16.4446	.06081	8.25273	8.19192
1.69	5.41948	.18452	2.80200	2.61748	2.9	18.1741	.05502	9.11458	9.05956
1.70	5.47395	.18268	2.82832	2.64563	3.0	20.0855	.04979	10.0677	10.0179
1.71	5.52896	.18087	2.85491	2.67405	3.1	22.1980	.04505	11.1215	11.0765
1.72	5.58453	.17907	2.88180	2.70273	3.2	24.5325	.04076	12.2866	12.2459
1.73	5.64065	.17728	2.90897	2.73168	3.3	27.1126	.03688	13.5747	13.5379
1.74	5.69743	.17552	2.93643	2.76091	3.4	29.9641	.03337	14.9987	14.9654
1.75	5.75460	.17377	2.96419	2.79041	3.5	33.1155	.03020	16.5728	16.5426
1.76	5.81244	.17204	2.99224	2.82020	3.6	36.5982	.02732	18.3128	18.2855
1.77	5.87085	.17033	3.02059	2.85026	3.7	40.4473	.02472	20.2360	20.2113
1.78	5.92986	.16864	3.04925	2.88061	3.8	44.7012	.02237	22.3618	22.3394
1.79	5.98945	.16696	3.07821	2.91125	3.9	49.4024	.02024	24.7113	24.6911
1.80	6.04965	.16530	3.10747	2.94217	4.0	54.5982	.01832	27.3082	27.2899
1.81	6.11045	.16365	3.13705	2.97340	4.1	60.3403	.01657	30.1784	30.1619
1.82	6.17186	.16203	3.16694	3.00492	4.2	66.6863	.01500	33.3507	33.3357
1.83	6.23389	.16041	3.19715	3.03674	4.3	73.6998	.01357	36.8567	36.8431
1.84	6.29654	.15882	3.22768	3.06886	4.4	81.4509	.01228	40.7316	40.7193
1.85	6.35982	.15724	3.25853	3.10129	4.5	90.0171	.01111	45.0141	45.0030
1.86	6.42374	.15567	3.28970	3.13403	4.6	99.4843	.01005	49.7472	49.7371
1.87	6.48830	.15412	3.32121	3.16709	4.7	109.947	.00910	54.9781	54.9690
1.88	6.55350	.15259	3.35305	3.20046	4.8	121.510	.00823	60.7593	60.7511
1.89	6.61937	.15107	3.38522	3.23415	4.9	134.290	.00745	67.1486	67.1412
1.90	6.68589	.14957	3.41773	3.26816	5.0	148.413	.00674	74.2099	74.2032
1.91	6.75309	.14808	3.45058	3.30250	5.1	164.022	.00610	82.0140	82.0079
1.92	6.82096	.14661	3.48378	3.33718	5.2	181.272	.00552	90.6388	90.6333
1.93	6.88951	.14515	3.51733	3.37218	5.3	200.337	.00499	100.171	100.167
1.94	6.95875	.14370	3.55123	3.40752	5.4	221.406	.00452	110.705	110.701
1.95	7.02869	.14227	3.58548	3.44321	5.5	244.692	.00409	122.348	122.344
1.96	7.09933	.14086	3.62009	3.47923	5.6	270.426	.00370	135.215	135.211
1.97	7.17068	.13946	3.65507	3.51561	5.7	298.867	.00335	149.435	149.432
1.98	7.24274	.13807	3.69041	3.55234	5.8	330.300	.00303	165.151	165.148
1.99	7.31553	.13670	3.72611	3.58942	5.9	365.037	.00274	182.520	182.517
					6.0	403.429	.00248	201.716	201.714

**Table V.—Common Logarithms of the Gamma Function.**  
(Page 426.)

**Table VI.—Numerical Values of the Factor**

$$0.6745 \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1}}. \quad (\text{Page 523.})$$

n.	$\frac{0.6745}{\sqrt{n-1}}$									
	0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
0			0.6745	0.4769	0.3894	0.3372	0.3016	0.2754	0.2549	0.2385
10	0.2248	0.2133	.2029	.1947	.1871	.1803	.1742	.1686	.1636	.1590
20	.1547	.1508	.1472	.1438	.1406	.1377	.1349	.1323	.1298	.1275
30	.1252	.1231	.1211	.1192	.1174	.1157	.1140	.1124	.1109	.1094
40	.1080	.1066	.1053	.1041	.1029	.1017	.1005	.0994	.0984	.0974
50	0.0964	0.0954	0.0944	0.0935	0.0926	0.0918	0.0909	0.0901	0.0893	0.0886
60	.0878	.0871	.0864	.0857	.0850	.0843	.0837	.0830	.0824	.0818
70	.0812	.0806	.0800	.0795	.0789	.0784	.0778	.0773	.0768	.0763
80	.0759	.0754	.0749	.0745	.0740	.0736	.0731	.0727	.0723	.0719
90	.0715	.0711	.0707	.0703	.0699	.0696	.0692	.0688	.0685	.0681

**Table VII.—Numerical Values of the Factor**

$$\frac{0.6745}{\sqrt{n(n-1)}}. \quad (\text{Page 524.})$$

n.	$\frac{0.6745}{\sqrt{n(n-1)}}$									
	0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
0			0.4769	0.2754	0.1947	0.1508	0.1231	0.1041	0.0901	0.0795
10	0.0711	0.0643	.0587	.0540	.0500	.0465	.0435	.0409	.0386	.0365
20	.0346	.0329	.0314	.0300	.0287	.0275	.0265	.0255	.0245	.0237
30	.0229	.0221	.0214	.0208	.0201	.0196	.0190	.0185	.0180	.0175
40	.0171	.0167	.0163	.0159	.0155	.0152	.0148	.0145	.0142	.0139
50	0.0136	0.0134	0.0131	0.0128	0.0126	0.0124	0.0122	0.0119	0.0117	0.0115
60	.0113	.0111	.0110	.0108	.0106	.0105	.0103	.0101	.0100	.0098
70	.0097	.0096	.0094	.0093	.0092	.0091	.0089	.0088	.0087	.0086
80	.0085	.0084	.0083	.0082	.0081	.0080	.0080	.0079	.0077	.0076
90	.0075	.0074	.0073	.0073	.0072	.0071	.0070	.0069	.0069	.0068



$$0.8453 \sqrt{\frac{1}{n(n-1)}}. \quad (\text{Page 524.})$$

n.	$\frac{0.8453}{\sqrt{n(n-1)}}$									
	0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
0			0.5978	0.8451	0.2440	0.1890	0.1543	0.1304	0.1130	0.0996
10	0.0891	0.0806	.0736	.0677	.0627	.0583	.0546	.0513	.0483	.0457
20	.0434	.0412	.0393	.0376	.0360	.0345	.0331	.0319	.0307	.0297
30	.0287	.0277	.0268	.0260	.0252	.0245	.0238	.0232	.0225	.0220
40	.0214	.0209	.0204	.0199	.0194	.0190	.0186	.0182	.0178	.0174
50	0.0171	0.0167	0.0164	0.0161	0.0158	0.0155	0.0152	0.0150	0.0147	0.0145
60	.0142	.0140	.0137	.0135	.0133	.0132	.0129	.0127	.0125	.0123
70	.0122	.0120	.0118	.0117	.0115	.0113	.0112	.0110	.0109	.0108
80	.0106	.0105	.0104	.0102	.0101	.0100	.0099	.0098	.0097	.0096
90	.0095	.0093	.0092	.0091	.0090	.0089	.0089	.0088	.0087	.0086

$$0.8453 \frac{1}{n \sqrt{n-1}}. \quad (\text{Page 524.})$$

[illegible]

### Table X.—Numerical Values of the Probability Integral

$\frac{x}{r}$	P.									
	0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
0.0	0.	0.0054	0.0108	0.0161	0.0215	0.0269	0.0323	0.0377	0.0430	0.0484
0.1	.0538	.0591	.0645	.0699	.0752	.0806	.0859	.0913	.0966	.1020
0.2	.1078	.1126	.1180	.1233	.1286	.1339	.1392	.1445	.1498	.1551
0.3	.1603	.1656	.1709	.1761	.1814	.1866	.1918	.1971	.2023	.2075
0.4	.2127	.2179	.2230	.2282	.2334	.2385	.2436	.2488	.2539	.2590
0.5	0.2641	0.2691	0.2742	0.2793	0.2843	0.2893	0.2944	0.2994	0.3043	0.3093
0.6	.3143	.3192	.3242	.3291	.3340	.3389	.3438	.3487	.3535	.3583
0.7	.3632	.3680	.3728	.3775	.3823	.3870	.3918	.3965	.4012	.4059
0.8	.4105	.4152	.4198	.4244	.4290	.4336	.4381	.4427	.4472	.4517
0.9	.4562	.4606	.4651	.4695	.4739	.4783	.4827	.4860	.4914	.4957
1.0	0.5000	0.5043	0.5085	0.5128	0.5170	0.5212	0.5254	0.5295	0.5337	0.5378
1.1	.5419	.5460	.5500	.5540	.5581	.5620	.5660	.5700	.5739	.5778
1.2	.5817	.5856	.5894	.5932	.5970	.6008	.6046	.6083	.6120	.6157
1.3	.6194	.6231	.6267	.6303	.6339	.6375	.6410	.6445	.6480	.6515
1.4	.6550	.6584	.6618	.6652	.6686	.6719	.6753	.6786	.6818	.6851
1.5	0.6883	0.6915	0.6947	0.6979	0.7011	0.7042	0.7073	0.7104	0.7134	0.7165
1.6	.7195	.7225	.7255	.7284	.7313	.7342	.7371	.7400	.7428	.7457
1.7	.7485	.7512	.7540	.7567	.7594	.7621	.7648	.7675	.7701	.7727
1.8	.7753	.7778	.7804	.7829	.7854	.7879	.7904	.7928	.7952	.7976
1.9	.8000	.8023	.8047	.8070	.8093	.8116	.8138	.8161	.8183	.8205
2.0	0.8227	0.8248	0.8270	0.8291	0.8312	0.8332	0.8353	0.8373	0.8394	0.8414
2.1	.8433	.8453	.8473	.8492	.8511	.8530	.8549	.8567	.8585	.8604
2.2	.8622	.8639	.8657	.8674	.8692	.8709	.8726	.8742	.8759	.8775
2.3	.8792	.8808	.8824	.8840	.8855	.8870	.8886	.8901	.8916	.8930
2.4	.8945	.8960	.8974	.8988	.9002	.9016	.9029	.9043	.9056	.9069
2.5	0.9082	0.9095	0.9108	0.9121	0.9133	0.9146	0.9158	0.9170	0.9182	0.9193
2.6	.9205	.9217	.9228	.9239	.9250	.9261	.9272	.9283	.9293	.9304
2.7	.9314	.9324	.9334	.9344	.9354	.9364	.9373	.9383	.9392	.9401
2.8	.9410	.9419	.9428	.9437	.9446	.9454	.9463	.9471	.9479	.9487
2.9	.9495	.9503	.9511	.9519	.9526	.9534	.9541	.9548	.9556	.9563
3.0	0.9570	0.9577	0.9583	0.9590	0.9597	0.9603	0.9610	0.9616	0.9622	0.9629
3.1	.9635	.9641	.9647	.9652	.9658	.9664	.9669	.9675	.9680	.9686
3.2	.9691	.9696	.9701	.9706	.9711	.9716	.9721	.9726	.9731	.9735
3.3	.9740	.9744	.9749	.9753	.9757	.9761	.9766	.9770	.9774	.9778
3.4	.9782	.9786	.9789	.9793	.9797	.9800	.9804	.9807	.9811	.9814
3.	0.9570	0.9635	0.9691	0.9740	0.9782	0.9818	0.9848	0.9874	0.9896	0.9915
4.	.9930	.9943	.9954	.9963	.9970	.9976	.9981	.9985	.9988	.9990
5.	.9993	.9994	.9996	.9997	.9997	.9998	.9998	.9999	.9999	.9999
$\infty$	1.0000									

**Table XII.—Numerical Values of  $\frac{x}{r}$  Corresponding to Different Values of  $n$ , in the Application of Chauvenet's Criterion.**  
(Page 564.)

$n$ .	0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
0				2.05	2.27	2.44	2.57	2.67	2.76	2.84
10	2.91	2.96	3.02	3.07	3.12	3.16	3.19	3.22	3.26	3.29
20	3.32	3.35	3.38	3.41	3.43	3.45	3.47	3.49	3.51	3.53
30	3.55	3.57	3.58	3.60	3.62	3.64	3.65	3.67	3.68	3.69
40	3.71	3.72	3.73	3.74	3.75	3.77	3.78	3.79	3.80	3.81
50	3.82	3.83	3.84	3.85	3.86	3.87	3.88	3.88	3.89	3.90
60	3.91	3.92	3.93	3.94	3.95	3.95	3.96	3.97	3.97	3.98
70	3.99	3.99	4.00	4.01	4.02	4.02	4.03	4.04	4.05	4.05
80	4.06	4.06	4.06	4.07	4.07	4.08	4.09	4.09	4.10	4.11
90	4.11	4.12	4.13	4.14	4.14	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.16	4.16

If  $n=100$ ,  $t=4.16$ ;  $n=200$ ,  $t=4.48$ ;  $n=500$ ,  $t=4.90$ .

Table XIII.—Circular or Radian Measure of Angles.

(Page 606.)

Degrees.	0'.	6'.	12'.	18'.	24'.	30'.	36'.	42'.	48'.	54'.
0	·00000	·00175	·00349	·00524	·00698	·00873	·01047	·01222	·01396	·01571
1	·01745	·01920	·02094	·02269	·02443	·02618	·02793	·02967	·03142	·03316
2	·03491	·03665	·03840	·04014	·04189	·04363	·04538	·04712	·04887	·05061
3	·05236	·05411	·05585	·05760	·05934	·06109	·06283	·06458	·06632	·06807
4	·06981	·07156	·07330	·07505	·07679	·07854	·08029	·08203	·08378	·08552
5	·08727	·08901	·09076	·09250	·09425	·09599	·09774	·09948	·10123	·10297
6	·10472	·10647	·10821	·10996	·11170	·11345	·11519	·11694	·11868	·12043
7	·12217	·12392	·12566	·12741	·12915	·13090	·13265	·13439	·13614	·13788
8	·13963	·14137	·14312	·14486	·14661	·14835	·15010	·15184	·15359	·15533
9	·15708	·15882	·16057	·16232	·16406	·16581	·16755	·16930	·17104	·17279
10	·17453	·17628	·17802	·17977	·18151	·18326	·18500	·18675	·18850	·19024
11	·19199	·19373	·19548	·19722	·19897	·20071	·20246	·20420	·20595	·20769
12	·20944	·21118	·21293	·21468	·21642	·21817	·21991	·22166	·22340	·22515
13	·22689	·22864	·23038	·23213	·23387	·23562	·23736	·23911	·24086	·24260
14	·24435	·24609	·24784	·24958	·25133	·25307	·25482	·25656	·25831	·26005
15	·26180	·26354	·26529	·26704	·26878	·27053	·27227	·27402	·27576	·27751
16	·27925	·28100	·28274	·28449	·28623	·28798	·28972	·29147	·29322	·29496
17	·29671	·29845	·30020	·30194	·30369	·30543	·30718	·30892	·31067	·31241
18	·31416	·31590	·31765	·31940	·32114	·32289	·32463	·32638	·32812	·32987
19	·33161	·33336	·33510	·33685	·33859	·34034	·34208	·34383	·34558	·34732
20	·34907	·35081	·35256	·35430	·35605	·35779	·35954	·36128	·36303	·36477
21	·36652	·36826	·37001	·37176	·37350	·37525	·37699	·37874	·38048	·38223
22	·38397	·38572	·38746	·38921	·39095	·39270	·39444	·39619	·39794	·39968
23	·40143	·40317	·40492	·40666	·40841	·41015	·41190	·41364	·41539	·41713
24	·41888	·42062	·42237	·42412	·42586	·42761	·42935	·43110	·43284	·43459
25	·43633	·43808	·43982	·44157	·44331	·44506	·44680	·44855	·45029	·45204
26	·45379	·45553	·45728	·45902	·46077	·46251	·46426	·46600	·46775	·46949
27	·47124	·47298	·47473	·47647	·47822	·47997	·48171	·48346	·48520	·48695
28	·48869	·49044	·49218	·49393	·49567	·49742	·49916	·50091	·50265	·50440
29	·50615	·50789	·50964	·51138	·51313	·51487	·51662	·51836	·52011	·52185
30	·52360	·52534	·52709	·52883	·53058	·53233	·53407	·53582	·53756	·53931
31	·54105	·54280	·54454	·54629	·54803	·54978	·55152	·55327	·55501	·55676
32	·55851	·56025	·56200	·56374	·56549	·56723	·56898	·57072	·57247	·57421
33	·57596	·57770	·57945	·58119	·58294	·58469	·58643	·58818	·58992	·59167
34	·59341	·59516	·59690	·59865	·60039	·60214	·60388	·60563	·60737	·60912
35	·61087	·61261	·61436	·61610	·61785	·61959	·62134	·62308	·62483	·62657
36	·62832	·63006	·63181	·63355	·63530	·63705	·63879	·64054	·64228	·64403
37	·64577	·64752	·64926	·65101	·65275	·65450	·65624	·65799	·65973	·66148
38	·66323	·66497	·66672	·66846	·67021	·67195	·67370	·67544	·67719	·67893
39	·68068	·68242	·68417	·68591	·68766	·68941	·69115	·69290	·69464	·69639
40	·69813	·69988	·70162	·70337	·70511	·70686	·70860	·71035	·71209	·71384
41	·71558	·71733	·71908	·72082	·72257	·72431	·72606	·72780	·72955	·73129
42	·73304	·73478	·73653	·73827	·74002	·74176	·74351	·74526	·74700	·74875
43	·75049	·75224	·75398	·75573	·75747	·75922	·76096	·76271	·76445	·76620
44	·76794	·76969	·77144	·77318	·77493	·77667	·77842	·78016	·78191	·78365

Table XIII.—Continued.

Degrees.	0'.	6'.	12'.	18'.	24'.	30'.	36'.	42'.	48'.	54'.
45	·78540	·78714	·78889	·79063	·79238	·79412	·79587	·79762	·79936	·80114
46	·80285	·80460	·80634	·80809	·80983	·81158	·81332	·81507	·81681	·81856
47	·82030	·82205	·82380	·82554	·82729	·82903	·83078	·83252	·83427	·83601
48	·83776	·83950	·84125	·84299	·84474	·84648	·84823	·84998	·85172	·85347
49	·85521	·85696	·85870	·86045	·86219	·86394	·86568	·86743	·86917	·87092
50	·87266	·87441	·87616	·87790	·87965	·88139	·88314	·88488	·88663	·88837
51	·89012	·89186	·89361	·89535	·89710	·89884	·90059	·90234	·90408	·90583
52	·90757	·90932	·91106	·91281	·91455	·91630	·91804	·91979	·92153	·92328
53	·92502	·92677	·92852	·93026	·93201	·93375	·93550	·93724	·93899	·94073
54	·94284	·94422	·94597	·94771	·94946	·95120	·95295	·95470	·95644	·95819
55	·95993	·96168	·96342	·96517	·96691	·96866	·97040	·97215	·97389	·97564
56	·97738	·97913	·98088	·98262	·98437	·98611	·98786	·98960	·99135	·99309
57	·99484	·99658	·99833	1·00007	1·00182	1·00356	1·00531	1·00706	1·00880	1·01055
58	1·01229	1·01404	1·01578	1·01753	1·01927	1·02102	1·02276	1·02451	1·02625	1·02800
59	1·02974	1·03149	1·03323	1·03498	1·03673	1·03847	1·04022	1·04196	1·04371	1·04545
60	1·04720	1·04894	1·05069	1·05243	1·05418	1·05592	1·05767	1·05941	1·06116	1·06291
61	1·06465	1·06640	1·06814	1·06989	1·07163	1·07337	1·07512	1·07687	1·07861	1·08036
62	1·08210	1·08385	1·08559	1·08734	1·08909	1·09083	1·09258	1·09432	1·09607	1·09781
63	1·09956	1·10130	1·10305	1·10479	1·10654	1·10828	1·11003	1·11177	1·11352	1·11527
64	1·11701	1·11876	1·12050	1·12225	1·12399	1·12574	1·12748	1·12923	1·13097	1·13272
65	1·13446	1·13621	1·13795	1·13970	1·14145	1·14319	1·14494	1·14668	1·14843	1·15017
66	1·15192	1·15366	1·15541	1·15715	1·15890	1·16064	1·16239	1·16413	1·16588	1·16763
67	1·16937	1·17112	1·17286	1·17461	1·17635	1·17810	1·17984	1·18152	1·18333	1·18508
68	1·18682	1·18857	1·19031	1·19206	1·19381	1·19555	1·19730	1·19904	1·20079	1·20253
69	1·20428	1·20602	1·20777	1·20951	1·21126	1·21300	1·21475	1·21649	1·21824	1·21999
70	1·22175	1·22348	1·22522	1·22697	1·22871	1·23046	1·23220	1·23395	1·23569	1·23744
71	1·23918	1·24093	1·24267	1·24442	1·24617	1·24791	1·24966	1·25140	1·25315	1·25489
72	1·25664	1·25838	1·26013	1·26187	1·26362	1·26536	1·26711	1·26885	1·27060	1·27235
73	1·27409	1·27584	1·27758	1·27933	1·28107	1·28282	1·28456	1·28631	1·28805	1·28980
74	1·29154	1·29329	1·29503	1·29678	1·29852	1·30027	1·30202	1·30376	1·30551	1·30725
75	1·30900	1·31074	1·31249	1·31423	1·31598	1·31772	1·31947	1·32121	1·32296	1·32470
76	1·32645	1·32820	1·32994	1·33169	1·33343	1·33518	1·33692	1·33867	1·34041	1·34216
77	1·34390	1·34565	1·34739	1·34914	1·35088	1·35263	1·35438	1·35612	1·35787	1·35961
78	1·36136	1·36310	1·36485	1·36659	1·36834	1·37008	1·37183	1·37357	1·37532	1·37706
79	1·37881	1·38056	1·38230	1·38405	1·38579	1·38754	1·38928	1·39103	1·39277	1·39452
80	1·39626	1·39801	1·39975	1·40150	1·40324	1·40499	1·40674	1·40848	1·41023	1·41197
81	1·41372	1·41546	1·41721	1·41895	1·42070	1·42244	1·42419	1·42593	1·42768	1·42942
82	1·43117	1·43292	1·43466	1·43641	1·43815	1·43990	1·44164	1·44339	1·44513	1·44688
83	1·44862	1·45037	1·45211	1·45386	1·45560	1·45735	1·45910	1·46084	1·46259	1·46433
84	1·46608	1·46782	1·46957	1·47131	1·47306	1·47480	1·47655	1·47829	1·48004	1·48178
85	1·48353	1·48528	1·48702	1·48877	1·49051	1·49226	1·49400	1·49575	1·49749	1·49924
86	1·50098	1·50273	1·50447	1·50622	1·50796	1·50971	1·51146	1·51320	1·51495	1·51669
87	1·51844	1·52018	1·52193	1·52367	1·52542	1·52716	1·52891	1·53065	1·53240	1·53414
88	1·53589	1·53764	1·53938	1·54113	1·54287	1·54462	1·54636	1·54811	1·54985	1·55160
89	1·55334	1·55509	1·55683	1·55858	1·56032	1·56207	1·56382	1·56556	1·56731	1·56905

**Table XIV.—Numerical Values of some Trigonometrical Ratios.**

(Page 609.)

**Table XV.—Signs of the Trigonometrical Ratios.**

(Page 610.)

**Table XVI.—Comparison of Hyperbolic and Trigonometrical Functions.**

(Page 614.)

**Table XVII.—Numerical Values of  $e^{x^2}$  and  $e^{-x^2}$  from  $x = 0.1$  to  $x = 5.0$ .**

$x$ .	$e^{x^2}$ .	$e^{-x^2}$ .	$x$ .	$e^{x^2}$ .	$e^{-x^2}$ .
0.1	1.0101	0.99005	2.6	$8.6264 \times 10^2$	$1.1592 \times 10^{-3}$
0.2	1.0408	.96079	2.7	$1.4656 \times 10^3$	$6.8233 \times 10^{-4}$
0.3	1.0904	.91393	2.8	2.5402	3.9367
0.4	1.1735	.85214	2.9	4.4918	2.2263
0.5	1.2840	.77880	3.0	8.1031	1.2341
0.6	1.4333	0.69768	3.1	$1.4913 \times 10^4$	$6.7055 \times 10^{-5}$
0.7	1.6323	.61263	3.2	2.8001	3.5713
0.8	1.8965	.52729	3.3	5.2960	1.8644
0.9	2.2479	.44486	3.4	$1.0482 \times 10^5$	$9.5402 \times 10^{-6}$
1.0	2.7183	.36788	3.5	2.0898	4.7851
1.1	3.3535	0.29820	3.6	$4.2507 \times 10^5$	$2.3526 \times 10^{-6}$
1.2	4.2207	.23693	3.7	8.8205	1.1337
1.3	5.4195	.18452	3.8	$1.8673 \times 10^6$	$5.3554 \times 10^{-7}$
1.4	7.0993	.14086	3.9	4.0329	2.4796
1.5	9.4877	.10540	4.0	8.8861	1.1254
1.6	12.936	0.077306	4.1	$1.9976 \times 10^7$	$5.0032 \times 10^{-8}$
1.7	17.998	.055576	4.2	4.5809	2.1829
1.8	25.584	.039164	4.3	$1.0718 \times 10^8$	$9.3303 \times 10^{-9}$
1.9	36.996	.027052	4.4	2.5583	3.9088
2.0	54.598	.018316	4.5	6.2297	1.6052
2.1	82.269	0.012155	4.6	$1.5476 \times 10^9$	$6.4614 \times 10^{-10}$
2.2	126.47	.0079070 <sup>1</sup>	4.7	3.9228	2.5494
2.3	198.34	.0050418	4.8	$1.0143 \times 10^{10}$	$9.8595 \times 10^{-11}$
2.4	317.35	.0031511	4.9	2.6755	3.7376
2.5	518.02	.0019304	5.0	7.2005	1.3888

<sup>1</sup> 0.02555 means 0.00555 ; 0.0455 means 0.000055.



**Table XVIII.—Natural Logarithms of Numbers.**

Many formulæ require natural logarithms, and it is convenient to have at hand a table of these logarithms to avoid the necessity of having recourse to the conversion formulæ, page 28. Table XVIII. is used as follows:

*I. For numbers greater than 10, follow the method of Ex. (2) and (3) below.*

*II. For numbers between 1 and 10 not in the table, use interpolation formulæ, say proportional parts.*

*III. For numbers less than 1, use the method of Ex. (5) below.*

If there is going to be much trouble finding the natural log it may be better to use standard tables of logarithms to base 10 and multiply by 2.3026 in the ordinary way.

$$\log_e 10 = 2.3026.$$

EXAMPLES.—(1) Show that  $\log_e \pi = \log_e (3.1416) = 1.1447$ .

(2) Required the logarithm of 5,540 to the base  $e$ . Here

$$\log_e 5,540 = \log_e (5.540 \times 1,000) = \log_e (5.54 \times 10^3);$$

hence,  $\log_e 5,540 = \log_e 5.54 + 3 \log_e 10 = 8.6198$ .

(3) Show that  $\log_e 100 = 4.6052$ ;  $\log_e 1,000 = 6.9078$ ;  $\log_e 10,000 = 9.2103$ ;  $\log_e 100,000 = 11.5129$ . Hint.  $\log 1,000 = \log 10^3 = 3 \log 10$ .

(4) If 100 c.c. of a gas at a pressure of 5,000 grams per square centimetre expands until the gas occupies a volume of 557 c.c., what work is done during the process? From page 254,

$$W = p_1 v_1 \log_e \frac{v_2}{v_1} = 5,000 \times 100 \times \log_e 5.57 = 850,700 \text{ gm. cm.}$$

If a table of ordinary logarithms had been employed we should have written  $2.3026 \times \log_{10} 5.57$  in place of  $\log_e 5.57$ .

(5) Find  $\log_e 0.00051$ ;  $\log_e 0.0031$ ; and  $\log_e 0.51$ . Here we have  
 $\log_e 0.00051 = \log_e 5.1 - \log_e 10,000 = \log_e 5.1 - \log_e 10^4 = \log_e 5.1 - 4 \log_e 10 =$   
 $1.6292 - 4 \times 2.3026 = 1.6292 - 9.2104 = \overline{9}.4188, \text{ or } -8.5812; \log_e 0.0031 =$   
 $1.1314 - 6.9077 = \overline{6}.2237, \text{ or } -5.7763; \log_e 0.51 = 0.6292 - 2.3026 = \overline{2}.3166$   
 or  $-1.6734$ .

The bar over the first figure has a similar meaning to the "bar" of ordinary logs.



n.	.00.	.01.	.02.	.03.	.04.	.05.	.06.	.07.	.08.	.09.
1.0	0.0000	0.0100	0.0198	0.0296	0.0392	0.0488	0.0583	0.0677	0.0770	0.0862
1.1	.0953	.1044	.1133	.1222	.1310	.1398	.1484	.1570	.1655	.1740
1.2	.1823	.1906	.1989	.2070	.2151	.2231	.2311	.2390	.2469	.2546
1.3	.2624	.2700	.2776	.2852	.2927	.3001	.3075	.3148	.3221	.3293
1.4	.3365	.3436	.3507	.3577	.3646	.3716	.3784	.3853	.3920	.3988
1.5	0.4055	0.4121	0.4187	0.4253	0.4318	0.4383	0.4447	0.4511	0.4574	0.4637
1.6	.4700	.4762	.4824	.4886	.4947	.5008	.5068	.5128	.5188	.5247
1.7	.5306	.5365	.5423	.5481	.5539	.5596	.5653	.5710	.5766	.5822
1.8	.5878	.5933	.5988	.6043	.6098	.6152	.6206	.6259	.6313	.6366
1.9	.6419	.6471	.6523	.6575	.6627	.6678	.6729	.6780	.6831	.6881
2.0	0.6932	0.6981	0.7031	0.7080	0.7130	0.7178	0.7227	0.7276	0.7324	0.7372
2.1	.7419	.7467	.7514	.7561	.7608	.7655	.7701	.7747	.7793	.7839
2.2	.7885	.7930	.7975	.8020	.8065	.8109	.8154	.8198	.8242	.8286
2.3	.8329	.8372	.8416	.8459	.8502	.8544	.8587	.8629	.8671	.8713
2.4	.8755	.8796	.8838	.8879	.8920	.8961	.9002	.9042	.9083	.9123
2.5	0.9163	0.9203	0.9243	0.9282	0.9322	0.9361	0.9400	0.9439	0.9478	0.9517
2.6	.9555	.9594	.9632	.9670	.9708	.9746	.9783	.9821	.9858	.9895
2.7	.9933	.9970	1.0006	1.0043	1.0080	1.0116	1.0152	1.0189	1.0225	1.0260
2.8	1.0296	1.0332	.0367	.0403	.0438	.0472	.0508	.0543	.0578	.0613
2.9	.0647	.0682	.0716	.0750	.0784	.0818	.0852	.0886	.0919	.0953
3.0	1.0986	1.1019	1.1053	1.1086	1.1119	1.1151	1.1184	1.1217	1.1249	1.1282
3.1	.1314	.1346	.1378	.1410	.1442	.1474	.1506	.1537	.1569	.1600
3.2	.1632	.1663	.1694	.1725	.1756	.1787	.1817	.1848	.1878	.1909
3.3	.1939	.1970	.2000	.2030	.2060	.2090	.2119	.2149	.2179	.2208
3.4	.2238	.2267	.2296	.2326	.2355	.2384	.2413	.2442	.2470	.2499
3.5	1.2528	1.2556	1.2585	1.2613	1.2641	1.2670	1.2698	1.2726	1.2754	1.2782
3.6	.2809	.2837	.2865	.2892	.2920	.2947	.2975	.3002	.3029	.3056
3.7	.3083	.3110	.3137	.3164	.3191	.3218	.3244	.3271	.3297	.3324
3.8	.3350	.3376	.3403	.3429	.3455	.3481	.3507	.3533	.3558	.3584
3.9	.3610	.3635	.3661	.3686	.3712	.3737	.3762	.3788	.3813	.3838
4.0	1.3863	1.3888	1.3913	1.3938	1.3963	1.3987	1.4012	1.4036	1.4061	1.4086
4.1	.4110	.4134	.4159	.4183	.4207	.4231	.4255	.4279	.4303	.4327
4.2	.4351	.4375	.4398	.4422	.4446	.4469	.4493	.4516	.4540	.4563
4.3	.4586	.4609	.4633	.4656	.4679	.4702	.4725	.4748	.4771	.4793
4.4	.4816	.4839	.4861	.4884	.4907	.4929	.4954	.4974	.4996	.5019
4.5	1.5041	1.5063	1.5085	1.5107	1.5129	1.5151	1.5173	1.5195	1.5217	1.5239
4.6	.5261	.5282	.5304	.5326	.5347	.5369	.5390	.5412	.5433	.5454
4.7	.5476	.5497	.5518	.5539	.5560	.5581	.5602	.5623	.5644	.5665
4.8	.5686	.5707	.5728	.5748	.5769	.5790	.5810	.5831	.5851	.5872
4.9	.5892	.5913	.5933	.5953	.5974	.5994	.6014	.6034	.6054	.6074
5.0	1.6094	1.6114	1.6134	1.6154	1.6174	1.6194	1.6214	1.6233	1.6253	1.6273
5.1	.6292	.6312	.6332	.6351	.6371	.6390	.6409	.6429	.6448	.6467
5.2	.6487	.6506	.6525	.6544	.6563	.6582	.6601	.6620	.6639	.6658
5.3	.6677	.6696	.6715	.6734	.6752	.6771	.6790	.6808	.6827	.6845
5.4	.6864	.6882	.6901	.6919	.6938	.6956	.6975	.6993	.7011	.7029

n.	·00.	·01.	·02.	·03.	·04.	·05.	·06.	·07.	·08.	·09.
5·5	1·7048	1·7066	1·7083	1·7102	1·7120	1·7138	1·7156	1·7174	1·7192	1·7210
5·6	·7228	·7246	·7263	·7281	·7299	·7317	·7334	·7352	·7370	·7387
5·7	·7405	·7422	·7440	·7457	·7475	·7492	·7509	·7527	·7544	·7561
5·8	·7579	·7596	·7613	·7630	·7647	·7664	·7682	·7699	·7716	·7733
5·9	·7750	·7766	·7783	·7800	·7817	·7834	·7851	·7868	·7884	·7901
6·0	1·7917	1·7934	1·7951	1·7967	1·7984	1·8001	1·8017	1·8034	1·8050	1·8067
6·1	·8083	·8099	·8116	·8132	·8148	·8165	·8181	·8197	·8213	·8229
6·2	·8246	·8262	·8278	·8294	·8310	·8326	·8342	·8358	·8374	·8390
6·3	·8406	·8421	·8437	·8453	·8469	·8485	·8500	·8516	·8532	·8547
6·4	·8563	·8579	·8594	·8610	·8625	·8641	·8656	·8672	·8687	·8703
6·5	1·8718	1·8733	1·8749	1·8764	1·8779	1·8795	1·8810	1·8825	1·8840	1·8856
6·6	·8871	·8886	·8901	·8916	·8931	·8946	·8961	·8976	·8991	·9006
6·7	·9021	·9036	·9051	·9066	·9081	·9095	·9110	·9125	·9140	·9155
6·8	·9169	·9184	·9199	·9213	·9228	·9243	·9257	·9272	·9286	·9301
6·9	·9315	·9330	·9344	·9359	·9373	·9387	·9402	·9416	·9431	·9445
7·0	1·9459	1·9473	1·9488	1·9502	1·9516	1·9530	1·9544	1·9559	1·9573	1·9587
7·1	·9601	·9615	·9629	·9643	·9657	·9671	·9685	·9699	·9713	·9727
7·2	·9741	·9755	·9769	·9782	·9796	·9810	·9824	·9838	·9851	·9865
7·3	·9879	·9892	·9906	·9920	·9933	·9947	·9961	·9974	·9988	2·0001
7·4	2·0015	2·0028	2·0042	2·0055	2·0069	2·0082	2·0096	2·0109	2·0122	·0136
7·6	2·0149	2·0162	2·0176	2·0189	2·0202	2·0216	2·0229	2·0242	2·0255	2·0268
7·6	·0282	·0295	·0308	·0321	·0334	·0347	·0360	·0373	·0386	·0399
7·7	·0412	·0425	·0438	·0451	·0464	·0477	·0490	·0503	·0516	·0528
7·8	·0541	·0554	·0567	·0580	·0592	·0605	·0618	·0631	·0643	·0656
7·9	·0669	·0681	·0694	·0707	·0719	·0732	·0744	·0757	·0769	·0728
8·0	2·0794	2·0807	2·0819	2·0832	2·0844	2·0857	2·0869	2·0882	2·0894	2·0906
8·1	·0919	·0931	·0943	·0956	·0968	·0980	·0992	·1005	·1017	·1029
8·2	·1041	·1054	·1066	·1078	·1090	·1102	·1114	·1126	·1138	·1151
8·3	·1163	·1175	·1187	·1199	·1211	·1223	·1235	·1247	·1259	·1270
8·4	·1282	·1294	·1306	·1318	·1330	·1342	·1354	·1365	·1377	·1389
8·5	2·1401	2·1412	2·1424	2·1436	2·1448	2·1459	2·1471	2·1483	2·1494	2·1506
8·6	·1518	·1529	·1541	·1552	·1564	·1576	·1587	·1599	·1610	·1622
8·7	·1633	·1645	·1656	·1668	·1679	·1691	·1702	·1713	·1725	·1736
8·8	·1748	·1759	·1770	·1782	·1793	·1804	·1816	·1827	·1838	·1849
8·9	·1861	·1872	·1883	·1894	·1905	·1917	·1928	·1939	·1950	·1961
9·0	2·1972	2·1983	2·1994	2·2006	2·2017	2·2028	2·2039	2·2050	2·2061	2·2072
9·1	·2083	·2094	·2105	·2116	·2127	·2138	·2149	·2159	·2170	·2181
9·2	·2192	·2203	·2214	·2225	·2235	·2246	·2257	·2268	·2279	·2289
9·3	·2300	·2311	·2322	·2332	·2343	·2354	·2364	·2375	·2386	·2396
9·4	·2407	·2418	·2428	·2439	·2450	·2460	·2471	·2481	·2492	·2502
9·5	2·2512	2·2523	2·2534	2·2544	2·2555	2·2565	2·2576	2·2586	2·2597	2·2607
9·6	·2618	·2628	·2638	·2649	·2659	·2670	·2680	·2690	·2701	·2711
9·7	·2721	·2732	·2742	·2752	·2762	·2773	·2783	·2792	·2803	·2814
9·8	·2824	·2834	·2844	·2854	·2865	·2875	·2885	·2895	·2905	·2915
9·9	·2925	·2935	·2946	·2956	·2966	·2976	·2986	·2996	·3006	·3016



# INDEX.

- Abegg, 371.**  
**Abscissa, 84.**  
 — axis, 83.  
**Absolute error, 276.**  
 — zero, 12.  
**Acceleration, 17, 65.**  
 — curve, 102.  
 — Normal, 179.  
 — Tangential, 179.  
 — Total, 179.  
**Accidental errors, 510.**  
**Acetochloranilide, 8.**  
**Acnode, 171.**  
**Addition, 273.**  
**Adrian, 515.**  
**Airy, G. B., 451.**  
**d'Alembert's equation, 459.**  
**Algebra. Laws of, 177.**  
**Algebraic functions, 35.**  
**Alternando, 133.**  
**Amagat, 176.**  
**Amago, 74.**  
**Amount of substance, 6.**  
**Ampère, 29.**  
**Amplitude, 137, 427.**  
**Angles. Measurement of, 606.**  
 — — Circular, 606, 624.  
 — — Radian, 606, 624.  
 — Vectorial, 114.  
**Angular velocity, 137.**  
**Anti-differential, 190.**  
**Aperiodic motion, 410.**  
**Approximate calculations, 276.**  
 — integration, 335, 463.  
**Approximations. Solving differential equations by successive, 463.**  
**Arc of circle (length), 603.**  
**Archimedes' spiral, 117, 246.**  
**Areas bounded by curves, 230, 234, 237.**  
**Arithmetical mean, 235.**  
**Arrhenius, S., 146, 215, 332, 342.**  
**Association. Law of, 177.**  
**Asymptote, 104.**  
**August, 171.**  
**Atomic weights, 540.**  
**Austen, W. C. Roberts, 151.**  
**Auxiliaries, 559.**  
**Auxiliary equation, 400.**  
 — — Lagrange's, 453.  
**Average, 235.**  
 — error, 525.  
**Average velocity, 7.**  
**Averages. Method of, 536.**  
**Axes. Transformation of, 96.**  
**Axis. Abscissa, 83.**  
 — Conjugate, 102.  
 — Co-ordinate, 83, 121.  
 — Imaginary, 102.  
 — Major, 100.  
 — Minor, 100.  
 — Oblique, 83.  
 — of imaginaries, 177.  
 — of reals, 177.  
 — of revolution, 248.  
 — Real, 102.  
 — Rectangular, 83.  
 — Transverse, 102.  
**Bacon, F., 4, 273.**  
**Bancroft, W. D., 120.**  
**Bayer, 605.**  
**Baynes, R. E., 594.**  
**Berkeley, G., 32.**  
**Bernoulli, 572, 575.**  
**Bernoulli's equation, 388, 389.**  
 — series, 290.  
**Berthelot, M., 3, 227.**  
**Berthollet, 191.**  
**Bessel, 311, 514.**  
**Bessel's formula, 523.**  
**Binomial series, 36, 282.**  
**Biot, 55, 74, 319.**  
**Blanksma, J. J., 223.**  
**Bodenstein, M., 222, 228.**  
**Boiling curve, 174.**  
**Bolton, C., 290.**  
**Bolza, O., 579.**  
**Bosscha, 63.**  
**Boyle, 19, 20, 21, 23, 45, 46, 62, 114, 254, 444, 457, 596.**  
**Boynton, W. P., 114, 260.**  
**Brachistochrone, 572.**  
**Bradley, 514.**  
**Bradshaw, L., 390, 442.**  
**Break, 143.**  
**Bredig, G., 337.**  
**Bremer, G. J. W., 328.**  
**Briggsian logarithms, 25.**  
**Brückner, C., 303, 308, 356.**  
**Bunsen, R., 270.**  
**Burgess, J., 344.**  
**Byerly, W. E., 467, 481.**

- Cailletet, L. P., 150.  
 Calculations. Approximate, 276.  
 — with small quantities, 601.  
 Calculus. Differential, 19.  
 — finite differences, 308.  
 — Integral, 184.  
 — variations, 567.  
 Callendar, 39.  
 Callum, 561.  
 Cane sugar, 6.  
 Cardan, 353.  
 Carnot, 32, 34.  
 Carnot's function, 386.  
 Cartesian co-ordinates, 84.  
 Catenary, 348.  
 Cavendish, 527, 565.  
 Cayley, 169, 170, 603.  
*C*-discriminant, 394.  
 Centnerszwer, M., 329.  
 Central differences. Interpolation by, 315.  
 Centre, 98, 100, 101.  
 — of curvature, 180.  
 — of gravity, 605.  
 Ceratoid cusp, 170.  
 Characteristic equation, 79.  
 Charles' law, 21, 24, 91, 596.  
 Charpit, 454.  
 Chatelier, H. le, 318, 539.  
 Chatelier's theorem, 265.  
 Chauvenet's criterion, 563, 623.  
 Chloracetanilide, 8.  
 Chord of circle (length), 603.  
 Christoffel, 42.  
 Chrystal, G., 351, 364.  
 Circle, 97, 121.  
 — (area of), 604.  
 — Arc of (length), 604.  
 — Chord of (length), 604.  
 — Perimeter of (length), 604.  
 — of curvature, 180.  
 — Osculatory, 180.  
 Circular functions, 346.  
 — measure of angles, 606.  
 — sector (area), 605.  
 — segment (area), 605.  
 Clairaut, A. C., 192, 391, 393, 457, 561.  
 Clapeyron, E., 453, 457.  
 Clapeyron's work diagram, 239.  
 Clarke, F. W., 553, 554, 562.  
 Clausius, R., 6, 504.  
 Clement, 81.  
 — J. K., 350.  
 Coexistence of different reactions. Principle of, 70.  
 Cofactor (determinant), 589.  
 Collardeau, E., 150.  
 Colvill, W. H., 275.  
 Combinations, 602.  
 Common logarithms, 25, 27.  
 Commutation. Law of, 177.  
 Comparison test (convergent series), 271.  
 Complanation of surfaces, 247.  
 Complement (determinant), 589.  
 — Error function, 344.  
 — of angles, 610.  
 Complementary function, 413.  
 Complete differentials, 77.  
 — elliptic integrals, 426.  
 — integral, 377, 450.  
 — solution of differential equation, 377.  
 Componendo, 133.  
 — et dividendo, 133.  
 Composition of a solution, 88.  
 Compound interest law, 56.  
 Comte, A., 3.  
 Concavity of curves, 159.  
 Condensation. Retrograde, 175.  
 Conditional equation, 218, 353.  
 Conditioned maxima and minima, 301.  
 — observations, 555.  
 Conditions. Limiting, 363, 452.  
 Conduction of heat, 493.  
 Cone, 135.  
 — (centre of gravity), 605.  
 — (surface area), 604.  
 — (volume), 605.  
 Conic sections, 97.  
 Conicoids, 595.  
 Conjugate axis, 102.  
 — determinant, 590.  
 — point, 171.  
 Conrad, M., 303, 308, 356.  
 Consistent equations. Test for, 585.  
 Constant, 19, 324.  
 — errors, 537.  
 — Integration, 193, 198, 234.  
 — of Fourier's series, 471.  
 — Phase, 137.  
 Constituent (determinant), 581.  
 Contact of curves, 291.  
 — Orders of, 291.  
 Continuous function, 142.  
 Convergent series, 267.  
 — — Test for, 271.  
 Convertendo, 133.  
 Convexity of curves, 159.  
 Cooling curves, 150.  
 Co-ordinate axis, 83, 122.  
 — plane, 122.  
 Co-ordinates. Cartesian, 84.  
 — Generalized, 140.  
 — Polar, 114.  
 — Transformation of, 115.  
 — Trilinear, 118.  
 Correction term, 278.  
 Cosecant, 607.  
 Cosine, 608.  
 — Direction, 124.  
 — Hyperbolic, 347, 613.  
 — series, 283, 474.  
 — — Euler's, 285.  
 Cotangent, 607.  
 Cotes and Newton's interpolation formula, 337.  
 Cottle, G. J., 223.  
 Criterion. Chauvenet's, 663.  
 — of integrability, 446.  
 Critical temperature, 150.  
 Crompton, H., 146.  
 Crookes, W., 229, 280, 531, 533, 565.  
 Crunode, 169.

- Cubature of solids, 248.  
 Curvature, 178.  
 — Centre of, 180.  
 — Circle of, 180.  
 — Direction of, 181.  
 — Radius of, 180.  
 Curve, 85.  
 — Equation of, 85.  
 — Error, 512.  
 — Frequency, 512.  
 — Imaginary, 177.  
 — Orders of, 120.  
 — Plotting, 86.  
 — Probability, 512.  
 — Sine, 186.  
 — Smoothed, 149.  
 Cusp, 169.  
 — Ceratoid, 170.  
 — Double, 170.  
 — First species, 170.  
 — locus, 394.  
 — Rhamphoid, 170.  
 — Second species, 170.  
 — Single, 170.  
 Cycle, 239.  
 Cyclic process, 239.  
 Cycloid, 443, 573.  
 Cylinder, 135.  
 — (surface area), 604.  
 — (volume), 605.  
  
 Dalton, 491.  
 Dalton's law, 64, 285.  
 Damped oscillations, 404, 409.  
 Damping ratio, 409.  
 Danneel, H., 197, 215, 217.  
 Darwin, G. H., 537.  
 Decrement. Logarithmic, 409.  
 Definite integral, 187, 230, 234, 240.  
 — — Differentiation of, 577.  
 Degree, 607.  
 — of differential equation, 378.  
 — of freedom, 140.  
 Demoivre's theorem, 351, 613.  
 Dependent variable, 8.  
 Descartes, R., 84, 498.  
 Determinant, 580.  
 — Conjugate, 590.  
 — Differentiation of, 590.  
 — Multiplication of, 589.  
 — Order of, 581.  
 — Properties of, 587.  
 — Skew, 590.  
 — Symmetrical, 590.  
 Developable surface, 134.  
 Dew curve, 175.  
 Diagrams. Work, 239.  
 — — Clapeyron's, 239.  
 Difference formulæ. Differentiation of, 320.  
 Differences. Calculus of finite, 303.  
 — Central. Interpolation by, 315.  
 — Orders of, 303.  
 — Table of, 309.  
 Differential, 10, 33, 563.  
 — calculus, 19.  
 Differential, coefficient, 8.  
 — — Second, 18.  
 — Complete, 77.  
 — equation, 66, 371, 374, 378.  
 — — Degree of, 373.  
 — — Order of, 378.  
 — — Solving, 371.  
 — Exact, 77, 384.  
 — Partial, 69, 448.  
 — Total, 69.  
 Differentiation, 19.  
 — by graphic interpolation, 319.  
 — Integration by, 495.  
 — Methods of, 8.  
 — of definite integrals, 577.  
 — of determinants, 590.  
 — of difference formulæ, 320.  
 — of hyperbolic functions, 349.  
 — of numerical relations, 318.  
 — Partial, 68.  
 — Solution of differential equations by 391.  
 — Successive, 64.  
 — — partial, 76.  
 Diffusion law. Fick's, 483.  
 — — Fourier's, 482.  
 — of gases, 199, 491.  
 — of heat, 493.  
 — of salts, 483.  
 Direction cosines, 124.  
 — of curvature, 181.  
 Directrix, 98.  
 Discontinuous functions, 142, 143, 149.  
 Discriminant, 852.  
 —  $p$ -, 393.  
 —  $C$ -, 394.  
 Dissociation, 111, 255.  
 — isotherm, 112.  
 Distribution. Law of, 177.  
 Divergent series, 267.  
 Dividendo, 133.  
 — et componendo, 133.  
 Division, 274.  
 — shortened, 275.  
 Dostor's theorem, 588.  
 Double cusps, 170.  
 — integrals, 251.  
 — — Variation of, 577.  
 Duhem, P., 141.  
 Dulong, 60, 273.  
 Dumas, J. B. A., 533, 548.  
 Dupre, A., 53.  
  
 Edgeworth, F. Y., 515, 519, 565.  
 Elasticity. Adiabatic, 113.  
 — Isothermal, 113.  
 Elements (determinant), 581.  
 — Leading, 583.  
 — Surface, 251.  
 — Volume, 253.  
 Eliminant, 583, 586.  
 Elimination, 377.  
 — equations, 559.  
 Ellipse, 99, 121.  
 — (area of), 604.

- Ellipse, (length of perimeter), 603.  
 Ellipsoid, 184, 595.  
 Elliptic functions, 428, 429.  
 — integrals, 426, 427, 429.  
 Empirical formulæ, 322.  
 Encke, 514, 552.  
 Entectic, 120.  
 Envelope, 182.  
 — locus, 394.  
 Epoch, 137.  
 Epstein, F., 337.  
 Equilateral hyperbola, 109.  
 Equilibrium. Van't Hoff's principle, 264.  
 Equation. Conditional, 352.  
 — Differential, 64.  
 — General, 89.  
 — Identical, 352.  
 — of curve, 85.  
 — of line, 89.  
 — of motion, 66.  
 — of plane, 133.  
 — of state, 78.  
 — Solving, 352.  
 — — Horner, 363.  
 — — Newton, 358.  
 — — Sturm, 360.  
 Error. Absolute, 276  
 — Accidental, 510.  
 — Average, 525.  
 — Constant, 537.  
 — Curve of, 512.  
 — Fractional, 541.  
 — function, 344.  
 — — Complement, 344.  
 — Law of, 511, 515.  
 — Mean, 524, 527, 528, 530.  
 — of method, 540.  
 — Percentage, 276, 541.  
 — Personal, 537.  
 — Probable, 521, 524, 526, 528.  
 — Proportional, 539, 540, 545.  
 — Relative, 541.  
 — Systematic, 537.  
 — Weighted, 550.  
 Esson, W., 332, 389, 435, 437, 438, 440.  
 Etard, 88.  
 Eulerian integral, 424, 425.  
 Euler's cosine series, 283.  
 — criterion of integrability, 77.  
 — sine series, 283.  
 — theorem, 74, 449.  
 Even function of  $x$ , 476.  
 Everett, J. D., 519.  
 Ewan, T., 63.  
 Exact differential, 77, 384.  
 — — equation, 378, 431.  
 — — Test for, 432.  
 — — — Forsyth's, 432.  
 Expansion. Adiabatic, 257.  
 — Isothermal, 254.  
 Explicit functions, 593.  
 Exponential functions, 54.  
 — series, 285.  
 External force, 413.  
 Extrapolation, 92, 310.  
 Factorial, 38.  
 Factors. Integrating, 77, 381, 383.  
 Faraday, M., 5, 539.  
 Federlin, W., 332.  
 Fermat, P. de, 567.  
 Fermat's principle, 165, 299.  
 Fick, 6, 492.  
 Fick's law of diffusion, 483, 492.  
 Field, 584.  
 Figures. Significant, 274.  
 Finite differences, 308.  
 First integral, 431.  
 — law of thermodynamics, 81.  
 — species of cusp, 170.  
 Fluxions, 34.  
 Focal radius, 98, 100.  
 Focus, 98, 100.  
 Forbes, 6.  
 Force. External, 413.  
 Forced oscillations, 413.  
 Forces. Generalized, 138, 141.  
 Formulæ. Finding, 322.  
 — Reduction, 205, 208, 211.  
 Forsyth, 454, 467.  
 Forsyth's test for exact equations, 432.  
 Fourier, J., 343, 467, 481.  
 Fourier's diffusion law, 481, 482.  
 — equation, 4 1.  
 — integrals, 479.  
 — series, 469, 470, 477.  
 — — Constants of, 470.  
 — theorem, 470.  
 Fraction. Partial, 212.  
 — Vanishing, 304, 305.  
 Fractional errors, 541.  
 — index, 28.  
 — precipitation, 229.  
 Free oscillations, 414.  
 Freedom. Degrees of, 140.  
 Fresnel, 5, 30.  
 Fresnel's integral, 424.  
 Frequency. Curve of, 512.  
 Friction, 397.  
 Frost, P., 168.  
 Frustum of cone (volume), 605.  
 Function, 19, 322.  
 — Complementary, 413.  
 — Continuous, 142.  
 — Discontinuous, 142, 144.  
 — Elliptic, 428.  
 — Error, 344.  
 — — Complement, 343.  
 — Even, 474.  
 — Explicit, 593.  
 — Gamma, 423, 424.  
 — Illusory, 304.  
 — Implicit, 593.  
 — Indeterminate, 304.  
 — Multiple-valued, 241.  
 — Odd, 475.  
 — Periodic, 136.  
 — Single-valued, 242.  
 — Singular, 304.  
 Fundamental laws of algebra, 177.  
 Fusibility. Surface of, 118.

- Galileo, 29, 225.  
 Gallitzine, 60.  
 Gamma function, 423, 424.  
 Gas equation, 78, 110, 139, 596.  
 Gauss, C. F., 176, 311, 332, 409, 513, 515, 520, 560.  
 Gauss's law, 353.  
 — — of errors, 516.  
 — interpolation formula, 315.  
 — method of solving equations, 557.  
 Gay Lussac, 88, 91, 285, 510.  
 Geitel, A. C., 440.  
 General equation, 89.  
 — integral, 451.  
 — mean, 551.  
 — solution of differential equation, 377.  
 Generalized co-ordinates, 139.  
 — forces, 139, 141.  
 Generator, 134.  
 Geometrical series, 268.  
 Gerling, C. L., 565.  
 Gibb's thermodynamic surface, 598.  
 Gilbert, 424.  
 Gill, D., 533.  
 Gilles, E. P. St., 227.  
 Glaisher, J. W. L., 344.  
 Goldschmidt, H., 215.  
 Graham, T., 199, 486, 490.  
 — J. C., 497.  
 Graph, 88.  
 Graphic interpolation, 318.  
 — — Differentiation by, 319.  
 — solution of equations, 355.  
 Gray, A., 467.  
 Greenhill, A. G., 351, 431.  
 Gregory's series, 284.  
 Gudermann, 428.  
 Gudermannians, 613.  
 Guldberg, 191, 226, 354.  
 Hagen, 507, 563.  
 Halley's law, 62, 260.  
 Hamilton, 567.  
 Harcourt, A. V., 332, 389, 435, 437, 438, 440.  
 Hardy, J. J., 245.  
 Harkness, J., 45.  
 Harmonic curve, 136.  
 — motion, 135, 234.  
 Hartley, W. N., 332.  
 Haskins, C. N., 350.  
 Hatchett, 603.  
 Hayes, E. H., 146.  
 Heat. Conduction of, 493.  
 Heaviside, O., 370, 377, 496.  
 Hecht, W., 303, 308, 356.  
 Hedley, E. P., 332.  
 Heilborn, 196.  
 Helmholtz, 203, 372, 471, 472.  
 Henrici, O., 116, 335, 472.  
 Henry, P., 216, 227.  
 Henry's law, 87.  
 Hermann, 603.  
 Herschel, J. F. W., 325, 515.  
 Hertz, H., 5, 109.  
 Hessian, 592, 594.  
 Hill, M. J. M., 394.  
 Hinds, 561.  
 Hinrichs, G., 519.  
 Hoar frost-line, 152.  
 Hobson, E. W., 267.  
 Hoff, Van't. Principle, 264.  
 Holman, S. W., 563.  
 Holtzmann, C., 457.  
 Homogeneous differential equations, 372.  
 — function, 75.  
 — simultaneous equations, 581, 584.  
 Hooke's law, 458.  
 Hopital. Rule of 1', 307.  
 Hopkinson, J., 4, 332.  
 Horstmann, A., 318, 319, 321, 326.  
 Humboldt, 510.  
 Hyperbola, 100, 121.  
 — equilateral, 109.  
 — rectangular, 109.  
 Hyperbolic cosine, 347.  
 — functions, 347, 612.  
 — — Differentiation of, 348.  
 — — Integration of, 349.  
 — logarithms, 25, 233.  
 — sine, 247.  
 — spiral, 117.  
 Hyperboloid, 133, 595.  
 Hyper-elliptic integrals, 430.  
 Ice line, 152.  
 Identical equation, 213, 352.  
 Illusory functions, 304.  
 Imaginaries. Axis of, 177.  
 Imaginary axis, 102.  
 — curve, 177.  
 — point, 177.  
 — quantities, 176.  
 — roots, 353.  
 — semi-axis, 102.  
 — surface, 177.  
 Implicit functions, 593.  
 Indefinite integral, 187.  
 Independence of different reactions. Principle of, 70.  
 Independent variable, 8, 448.  
 Indeterminate functions, 304.  
 Index. Fractional, 28.  
 — law, 24, 177.  
 — of refraction, 165.  
 Inequality. Symbols of, 13.  
 Inferior limit, 187.  
 Inflexion. Points of, 143, 160.  
 Inflexional tangents, 599.  
 Infinite series. Integration of, 341, 463.  
 Infinitesimals, 18, 33.  
 Infinity, 11.  
 Instantaneous velocity, 9.  
 Integrability. Criterion of, 446.  
 — — Euler's, 77.  
 Integral, 187.  
 — Complete, 377, 450.  
 — Definite, 189, 231, 240.  
 — Differentiation of, 577.  
 — Double, 251.  
 — Elliptic, 427, 428, 429, 430.



Integral, Elliptic, Complete, 430.

- Eulerian, 424, 425.
- First, 431.
- Fourier's, 479.
- Fresnel's, 424.
- General, 451.
- Hyper-elliptic, 430.
- Indefinite, 187.
- Limits, 187.
- Mean values of, 234.
- Multiple, 249.
- Particular, 400, 418.
- Probability, 516, 531, 532, 621, 622.
- Space, 189.
- Standard, 192, 193, 349.
- Time, 189.
- Ultra-elliptic, 430.
- Variation of, 568, 569, 573.
- — double, 577.
- — triple, 577.

Integrating factors, 77, 380, 381.

Integration, 184, 189.

- Approximate, 341, 469.
- by differentiation, 495.
- by infinite series, 341.
- by parts, 204.
- by successive integration, 206.
- constant, 193, 194, 234.
- formula of Newton and Cotes, 336.
- hyperbolic functions, 349.
- Substitutes for, 333.
- Successive, 249.
- Symbol of, 189.

Intercept equation of line, 90.

— — of plane, 132.

Interpolation, 310.

- formula, Gauss', 315.
- — Lagrange's, 311, 312.
- — Newton's, 311, 312.
- — Stirling's, 318, 320.
- Graphic, 317.
- — Differentiation by, 319.

Inverse sine series, 384.

— trigonometrical functions, 49.

— — series, 283.

Invert sugar, 6, 184.

Invertendo, 133.

Ions, 112.

Irrational numbers, 178.

Isobars, 110.

Isometrics, 110.

Isoperimetrical problem, 575.

Isopestics, 110.

Isothermal expansion, 254.

Isotherms, 110, 112, 113.

Jacobi, C. G. I., 69, 428.

Jacobian, 453, 591, 594.

Jellet, J. H., 579.

Jevons, W. S., 142, 143, 498, 510.

Johnson, S., 3.

Jones, D., 109.

Joubert, 431.

Joule, 61, 189.

Judson, W., 216, 222.

Keesom, W. H., 563.

Kelvin, Lord, 56, 60, 168, 343, 481, 496, 515.

Kepler, 5, 29, 225.

Kinetic theory, 504, 534.

Kipping, S., 546.

Kirchhoff, 503, 504.

Kleiber, 503.

Knight, W. T., 217.

Kohlrausch, F., 327, 408.

Kooij, D. M., 224.

Kopp, 324.

Kramp, 38, 343, 424.

Kühl, H., 216, 440.

Kundt, 520.

Laar, J. J. van, 356.

Lag, 417.

Lagrange, 287, 311, 568.

Lagrange's auxiliary equations, 453.

— criterion maxima and minima, 298.

— interpolation formula, 311, 312.

— method of undetermined multipliers, 301.

— solution of differential equations, 453.

— theorem, 301.

Lamb, H., 510.

Langley, E. M., 272.

Laplace, 114, 456, 461, 495, 499, 503, 504, 515.

Laplace's theorem, 300.

Laws of algebra, 177.

Lead, 417.

Leading element (determinant), 583.

Least squares, 517.

— — Method of, 326.

Legendre, 424, 426, 430, 517.

— equation, 403.

— parameter, 429.

Lehfeldt, R. A., 334.

Leibnitz, 19, 32, 33, 35, 61.

— series, 284.

— theorem, 67.

— — Symbolic form of, 68.

Lemoine, G., 340.

Lenz's law, 404.

Liagre, J. B. J., 498.

Limiting conditions, 363, 452.

Limits of integrals, 187.

— inferior, 187.

— lower, 187.

— superior, 187.

— upper, 187.

Linear differential equation, 387, 399.

— — — Exact, 431.

Liouville, 413.

Locus, 88.

— Cusp, 394.

— Envelope, 394.

— Nodal, 394.

— Tac, 394.

Lodge, O. J., 146, 603.

Logarithm, 24, 274.

— Briggsian, 25.

- Logarithm, Common, 25.  
 — Hyperbolic, 25, 238.  
 — Napierian, 25.  
 — Natural, 25, 627.  
 Logarithmic decrement, 408.  
 — differentiation, 53.  
 — functions, 51.  
 — paper, 331.  
 — series, 290.  
 — spiral, 117.  
 Lorentz, H., 443.  
 Losanitsch, 603.  
 Loschmidt, 74, 491.  
 Love, 83.  
 Löwel, 88.  
 Lower limit, 187.  
 Lowry, T. M., 146.  
 Lupton, S., 333.  
  
 Mach, E., 126, 184, 580, 601.  
 Maclaurin's series, 280, 282, 286, 288, 301.  
     305, 322.  
 — theorem, 278, 280, 281, 301.  
 Magnitude. Orders of, 10.  
 Magnus, 55, 171.  
 Major axis, 100.  
 Mallet, 504.  
 Marek, 544.  
 Marignac, 552.  
 Mascart, 431.  
 Material point, 65.  
 Mathews, G. B., 467.  
 Matrix, 582.  
 Matthiessen, 44.  
 Maupertius, 567.  
 Maxima, 154, 155, 157, 161, 293, 296, 299,  
     570, 575.  
 — Conditional, 300.  
 — Lagrange's criterion, 298.  
 Maxwell, J. C., 5, 511, 534.  
 Mayer, R., 82, 114, 260, 561.  
 Mean, 234.  
 — Arithmetical, 235.  
 — Error, 524, 525, 526, 527.  
 — General, 551.  
 — Probable, 551.  
 — Square, 236.  
 — Values of integrals, 234.  
 — Velocity, 7.  
 Measure of precision, 513.  
 Measurement of angles, 606.  
 — — Circular, 606, 624.  
 — — Radian, 606, 624.  
 Mellor, J. W., 139, 221, 390, 442, 466.  
 Mendeléeff, D., 39, 117, 139, 145, 146, 276.  
 Mensuration, 594.  
 Merrifield, C. W., 340.  
 Merriman, M., 563.  
 Metastable states, 152.  
 Method. Errors of, 537.  
 Meyer, L., 552.  
 — O. E., 504.  
 Meyerhofer, W., 216.  
 Midsection formula, 340.  
 Mill, J. S., 126.  
  
 Minchin, 149.  
 Minima, 154, 155, 157, 161, 293, 296, 299,  
     570, 575.  
 — Conditioned, 300.  
 — Lagrange's criterion, 298.  
 Minor (determinant), 583.  
 — axis, 100.  
 Mitchell, 503.  
 Modulus, 427.  
 — of logarithms, 27.  
 — of precision, 513.  
 Molecules. Velocities of, 534.  
 Momentum, 189.  
 Morgan, A. de, 13, 204, 281.  
 Morley, E., 549, 553.  
 — F., 45.  
 Mosander, 229.  
 Moseley, 454, 455.  
 Motion. Aperiodic, 410.  
 — Equation of, 66.  
 — Harmonic, 136, 234.  
 — Oscillatory, 396.  
 — Periodic, 136.  
 Multiple integrals, 249.  
 — Determinants, 589.  
 — point, 169.  
 — — Valued function, 241.  
 Multiplication, 274.  
 — Shortened, 275.  
 Multipliers. Undetermined, 301.  
 Mutual independence of different re-  
     actions, 70.  
  
 Napierian logarithms, 25.  
 Napier, J., 53.  
 Natural logarithms, 25, 27, 627.  
 — oscillations, 414.  
 Nernst, W., 111, 112.  
 Newcomb, S., 514.  
 Newlands, 117, 139.  
 Newton, I., 5, 19, 29, 30, 32, 34, 58, 60, 61,  
     114, 189, 192, 311, 396, 461, 544, 569.  
 Newton-Cotes interpolation formula, 337.  
 Newton's interpolation formula, 312.  
 — law, 441.  
 — method of solving equations, 358.  
 Nicol, J., 320.  
 Node, 169.  
 Non-homogeneous equations, 373.  
 Nordenskjöld's law, 64.  
 Normal, 105, 598.  
 — acceleration, 179.  
 — equation, 558.  
 — — of line, 91.  
 — — — plane, 133.  
 — Length of, 108.  
 Noyes, A. A., 223.  
 Numerical equation, 352.  
 — values of trigonometrical ratios, 609.  
  
 Obermayer, O. A. von, 74, 491.  
 Oblique axes, 83.  
 Observation equations, 325, 582, 584.  
 — — Solving, 325.  
 — — — Gauss, 557.

- Observations, Conditioned, 555, 558.  
 — Rejecting, 563.  
 — Test for fidelity of, 531.  
 Odd function of  $x$ , 475.  
 Ohm, 483.  
 Ohm's law, 3, 388, 483.  
 Operation. Symbols of, 19, 396.  
 Orders of contact, 291.  
 — of curves, 120.  
 — of differences, 308.  
 — of differential equations, 378.  
 — of determinants, 58.  
 — of magnitude, 18.  
 — of surfaces, 595.  
 Ordinary differential equations, 378.  
 Ordinate, 84.  
 — axis, 83.  
 Origin, 84.  
 Orthogonal trajectory, 395.  
 Oscillations. Damped, 404.  
 — Forced, 413, 414.  
 — Free, 414.  
 — Natural, 414.  
 — Period of, 137.  
 Oscillatory motion. Equations of, 396.  
 Osculation. Points of, 170.  
 Osculatory circle, 180.  
 Ostwald, W., 139, 224, 226, 275, 545, 554.
- Parallelepiped, 71.  
 Parallelogram (area), 604.  
 — of velocities, 125.  
 Parallelopiped, 71.  
 — of velocities, 125.  
 — (volume), 605.  
 Paraboloid, 134, 595.  
 Parabola, 99.  
 — (area of), 604.  
 Parabolic formulæ, 336.  
 Parameters (crystals), 132.  
 — Legendre's, 429.  
 — variable, 182.  
 Parnell, T., 320.  
 Partial differential, 70.  
 — — equations, 378, 448, 449.  
 — differentiation, 68.  
 — fractions, 212.  
 Particular integrals, 400, 418.  
 — solutions, 377, 450.  
 Parts. Integration by, 205.  
 — Interpolation by proportional, 311.  
 — Rule of proportional, 289.  
 Paschen, 332.  
 $P$ -discriminant, 393.  
 Pelouse, 552.  
 Pendlebury, R., 344.  
 Percentage error, 276, 541.  
 Perimeter of circle (length), 603.  
 — of ellipse (length), 603.  
 Period of oscillation, 137.  
 Periodic functions, 136.  
 — motion, 135.  
 Perkin, W. H., 546.  
 Permutations, 602.  
 Perpendicular equation of line, 90.
- Perry, J., 72, 331, 332, 472.  
 Personal error, 537.  
 Peter's formula, 524.  
 Petit and Dulong, 60.  
 Phase, 119.  
 — constant, 137.  
 Pickering, S. V., 146, 148.  
 Pierce, B. O., 205, 568.  
 Plaats, J. D. van der, 561.  
 Plait point, 176.  
 — — curve, 176.  
 Planck, M., 79, 357.  
 Plane, 122, 132.  
 — Co-ordinate, 122.  
 — Equation of. Intercept, 132.  
 — — General, 133.  
 — — Normal, 133.  
 — Projection, 129.  
 — — Normal, 133.  
 Plotting curves, 87.  
 Poincaré, H., 274, 515.  
 Point, imaginary, 177.  
 Poisson, S. D., 449, 456.  
 Polar co-ordinates, 114.  
 Polygon (area), 604.  
 Polynomial, 38.  
 Precht, J., 332.  
 Precipitates. Washing, 269.  
 Precipitation. Fractional, 229.  
 Precision. Measure or modulus of, 513.  
 Pressure curves. Vapour, 147, 151.  
 Priestley, J., 91.  
 Primitive, 377.  
 Prism (surface area), 604.  
 — (volume), 605.  
 Probability, 498.  
 — curve, 512.  
 — integral, 516, 531, 532, 621, 622.  
 Probable error, 521, 526, 528, 529.  
 — mean, 551.  
 Projection, 128.  
 — of curve, 129.  
 — of point, 128.  
 — plane, 129.  
 Properties of determinants, 587.  
 Proportional errors, 539, 541.  
 — parts. Rule of, 289.  
 — — Interpolation by, 311.  
 Proportionality constant, 21.  
 Prout's law, 504.  
 Pyramid (centre of gravity), 605.  
 — (surface area), 604.  
 — (volume), 605.  
 Pythagoras' theorem, 603.
- Quadrature of surfaces, 232.  
 Quantities. Small. Calculations with, 601.
- Radian, 606.  
 — measure of angles, 607.  
 Radius, 98.  
 — focal, 99, 100.  
 — of curvature, 180.  
 — vector, 100, 114.

- Ramsay, W., 566.  
 Rankine, G., 323.  
 Rapp, 278.  
 Rate, 9.  
 Ratio. Damping, 408.  
   — Test, 272.  
 Ravenshear, A. F., 563.  
 Rayleigh, Lord, 538, 539, 566.  
 Raymond, E. du Bois 410.  
 Real axis, 102.  
   — semi-axis, 102.  
 Reals. Axis of, 177.  
 Rectangle (area), 604.  
 Rectangular axis, 83.  
   — hyperbola, 109.  
 Rectification of curves, 245.  
 Reduction formulæ, 205, 208, 211.  
   — Integration by successive, 206.  
 Reech's theorem, 81.  
 Reference triangle, 117.  
 Refraction of light, 165.  
 Regnault, 147, 171, 323, 326, 539, 553.  
 Reicher, L. T., 223.  
 Rejection of observations, 563.  
 Relative errors, 541.  
   — zero, 12.  
 Renyard, 210.  
 Restitution, 397.  
 Retardation, 18.  
 Retrograde condensation, 175.  
 Revolution. Axis of, 247.  
   — solid of, 248.  
   — surface of, 134, 247.  
 Rey, H., 603.  
 Rhamphoid cusp, 170.  
 Rhombus (area), 604.  
 Richardson, O. W., 320.  
 Riemann, B., 244, 467, 481.  
 Roche, 171.  
 Röntgen rays, 214.  
 Roots, 352.  
   — Imaginary, 353.  
   — of equations. Separation, 359.  
 Roscoe, H. E., 584.  
 Routh, E. J., 415.  
 Rowland, H. A., 552, 565.  
 Rows (determinants), 582.  
 Rücker, A. W., 146, 278.  
 Rudberg, F., 527, 565.  
 Ruled surfaces, 134.  
 Runge, C., 332.  
  
 Sachse, H., 606.  
 Sargant, E. B., 512.  
 Sarrau, G.  
 Sarrus, 232.  
 Schmidt, G. C., 326.  
 Schorlemmer, C., 584.  
 Schreinemaker, F. A. H., 372, 373.  
 Schuster, A., 503.  
 Secant, 603.  
 Second differential coefficient, 18, 65.  
   — law of thermodynamics, 81.  
   — species of cusp, 170.  
 Sector. Area of circular, 604.  
 Segment. Area of circular, 604.  
   — Surface area of spherical, 604.  
   — Volume of spherical, 605.  
 Seitz, W., 488.  
 Semi-axis, 102.  
   — Imaginary, 102.  
   — Real, 102.  
 Semi-logarithmic paper, 331.  
 Separation of roots of equations, 359.  
 Series, 266.  
   — Bernoulli's, 290.  
   — Binomial, 282.  
   — Convergent, 267.  
   — — Tests for, 271.  
   — Cosine, 283, 473.  
   — — Euler's, 285.  
   — Divergent, 267.  
   — Exponential, 285.  
   — Fourier's, 469, 470.  
   — Geometrical, 268.  
   — Gregory's, 284.  
   — Integration in, 341, 463, 464.  
   — Leibnitz's, 284.  
   — Logarithmic, 290.  
   — Maclaurin's. See "Maclaurin".  
   — Sine, 283, 473.  
   — — Euler's, 285.  
   — — Inverse, 284, 285.  
   — Tangent, 283.  
   — Taylor's. See "Taylor".  
   — Trigonometrical, 283, 473.  
   — — Inverse, 283.  
 Senbert, K., 552.  
 Shanks, 274.  
 Shaw, H. S. H., 85.  
 Shortened division, 275.  
   — multiplication, 275.  
 Significant figures, 274.  
 Signs of trigonometrical ratios, 610.  
 Similar figures (lengths), 603.  
   — — (areas), 604.  
   — — (volumes), 605.  
 Simpson's one-third rule, 336, 338.  
   — three-eighths rule, 338.  
 Simultaneous differential equations, 434, 441, 444.  
   — equations, 580, 584.  
 Sine, 607.  
   — hyperbolic, 347, 613.  
   — series, 283, 473.  
   — — Euler's, 285.  
   — — Inverse, 283, 284.  
 Sines. Curve of, 136.  
 Single cusps, 170.  
 Single-valued functions, 242.  
 Singular functions, 304.  
   — points, 167.  
   — solution, 392, 450.  
 Skew determinant, 590.  
   — surface, 134.  
 Small quantities. Calculations with, 601.  
 Smoothing of curves, 148.  
 Snell's law, 165.  
 Soldner's integral, 423.  
 Solubility curves, 87, 88.

- Solubility, surface, 597.  
 Solution, 352.  
   — Complete, 377.  
   — Extraneous, 363.  
   — General, 377.  
   — of differential equations, 370, 377, 449.  
   — — by differentiation, 390.  
   — of equations, 352.  
   — — Graphic, 355.  
   — — Horner's equations, 363.  
   — — Newton's, 358.  
   — — Sturm's, 360.  
   — Particular, 377, 450.  
   — Singular, 392, 450.  
   — Test for, 363.  
 Solutions, 145.  
 Solving equations, 352.  
   — — Differential, by successive approximations, 467.  
   — — Observational, 324, 326, 330.  
   — — — Gauss, 557.  
   — — — Mayer, 561.  
 Soret, 199.  
 Space integral, 189.  
 Speed, 9.  
 Spencer, H., 3.  
 Sphere, 134.  
   — (surface area), 604.  
   — (volume), 605.  
 Spherical segment (surface area), 604.  
   — — (volume), 605.  
   — triangle (area), 604.  
 Spheroids, 595.  
 Spinode, 169.  
 Spiral Archimedes, 117.  
   — curves, 116.  
   — Hyperbolic, 117.  
   — Logarithmic, 117.  
 Sprague, J. T., 194.  
 Square. Mean, 234.  
 Squares. Method of Least, 326, 517.  
 Standard integrals, 192, 193, 349.  
 Stas, 273, 530, 552.  
 State. Equation of, 78.  
 Statistical method, 536.  
 Steam line, 151.  
 Stefan, 60.  
 Stirling, 281, 311.  
 Stirling's formula, 317, 320, 602.  
 Stone, 563.  
 Straight lines, 89.  
 Strain theory carbon atoms, 605.  
 Strutt, R. J., 504, 496.  
 Sturm's functions, 360.  
   — method solving equations, 360.  
 Sub-determinant, 583.  
 Sub-normal, 108.  
 Substitutes for integration, 333.  
 Substitution, symbol of, 232.  
 Sub-tangent, 108.  
 Subtraction, 274.  
 Successive approximation. Solving differential equations by, 467.  
   — differentiation, 64.  
   — reduction. Integration by, 206.  
 Successive integration, 249.  
 Sugar. Cane, 6, 184.  
   — Invert, 6, 184.  
 Superior limit, 187.  
 Superposition of particular integrals, 400.  
 Supplement of angles, 610.  
 Surd numbers, 178.  
 Surface, 122, 132.  
   — Complination, 247.  
   — Developable, 134.  
   — elements, 230, 251.  
   — Imaginary, 177.  
   — integral, 249.  
   — of fusibility, 118.  
   — of revolution, 134, 247.  
   — of solubility, 597.  
   — Orders of, 595.  
   — Quadrature, 232.  
   — Ruled, 134.  
   — Skew, 134.  
   — Thermodynamic (J. W. Gibbs), 596.  
   — Van der Waals', 596.  
 Symbol, 195.  
   — of inequality, 13.  
   — — integration, 189.  
   — — operation, 19, 396.  
   — — substitution, 232.  
 Symbolic form of Leibnitz' theorem, 68.  
   — — of Taylor's theorem, 428.  
 Symmetrical equation of line, 131.  
   — determinant, 590.  
 Systematic errors, 537.  
 Table of differences, 309.  
 Tabulating numbers, 309.  
 Tac locus, 394.  
 Tacnodes, 170.  
 Tait, P. G., 6, 405, 469, 496, 515.  
 Tangent, 102, 104, 144, 607.  
   — form of equation, 91.  
   — inflexional, 599.  
   — Length of, 108.  
   — Line of, 597.  
   — plans, 597, 598.  
   — series, 283.  
 Tangential acceleration, 179.  
 Taylor, F. G., 28.  
 Taylor's theorem, 281, 286, 290, 301, 354, 458, 569, 592.  
   — — symbolic form of, 458.  
   — series, 286, 287, 288, 291, 292, 293, 305, 322.  
 Temperature. Critical, 150.  
 Terminal point, 171.  
 Test for exact differential equations, 77, 379, 431.  
   — — — Forsyth's, 432.  
   — consistent equations, 585.  
   — convergent series, 271.  
   — solutions, 363.  
 Test-ratio test (convergent series), 272.  
 Theoretical formulæ, 322.  
 Thermodynamics, 79, 80, 81, 82.  
   — First law, 81.

- Thermodynamics, Second law, 81.  
 — Surfaces (J. W. Gibbs), 596.  
 Thermometer, 111.  
 Thomsen, J., 79.  
 Thomson, J., 148, 586.  
 — J. J., 214, 442, 509.  
 — W. See Kelvin.  
 Thorpe, T. E., 278.  
 Time integral, 189.  
 Todhunter, I., 290, 572.  
 Total acceleration, 179.  
 — differential, 70.  
 — — equations, 448.  
 Trajectory, 395.  
 — Orthogonal, 395.  
 Transformation of axis, 96.  
 — Co-ordinates, 118.  
 Transition point, 145.  
 Transverse axis, 102.  
 Trapezium (area), 604.  
 Trapezoidal formulæ, 339.  
 Travers, M. W., 566.  
 Trevor, J. E., 594.  
 Triangle (area), 604.  
 — of reference, 118.  
 — Spherical (area), 604.  
 Triangular lamina (centre of gravity), 605.  
 Trigonometrical functions, 47.  
 — — Inverse, 47.  
 — ratios, 608.  
 — — Numerical values of, 609.  
 — — Signs of, 610.  
 — series, 283, 473.  
 — — Inverse, 283, 284.  
 Trigonometry, 606.  
 Trilinear co-ordinates, 118.  
 Triple integrals. Variation of, 577.  
 — point, 151, 152.  
 Tubandt, C., 228.  
 Turner, G. C., 116.  
 Turning point, 143, 160.  
 Tutton, A. E., 278.
- Ultra-elliptic integrals, 430.  
 Undetermined multipliers (Lagrange), 301.  
 Upper limit, 187.
- Values of integrals. Mean, 234.  
 Vanishing fractions, 304, 305.  
 Vapour pressure curves, 147, 151.  
 Variable, 19.  
 — Dependent, 8.  
 — Independent, 8, 448.  
 — parameter, 182.  
 Variation, 568, 569, 572.  
 — constant, 21.  
 — of integral, 568, 569, 573.
- Variations. Calculus of, 567.  
 Vector. Radius, 100, 114.  
 Vectorial angle, 114.  
 Velocities. Parallelogram of, 125.  
 — Parallelopiped of, 125.  
 Velocity, 9.  
 — Angular, 137.  
 — Average, 7.  
 — curve, 103.  
 — Instantaneous, 8.  
 — Mean, 7.  
 — of chemical reactions, 6, 218.  
 — — — Consecutive, 433.  
 Venn J., 515.  
 Vertex, 99, 100, 102.  
 Vibration. See Oscillation.  
 Volume, 605.  
 — elasticity of gases, 113.  
 — elements, 253.
- Waage, 190, 226, 354.  
 Waals, J. H. van der, 6, 46, 114, 172, 176,  
 255, 260, 367, 579, 596.  
 — surfaces, 596.  
 Walker, J., 433, 440.  
 — J. W., 216, 222.  
 Warder, R. B., 215.  
 Washing precipitates, 269.  
 Wave length, 137.  
 Weber, H. F., 244, 467, 481, 479, 520.  
 Weddle's rule, 338.  
 Wegscheider, R., 334, 337, 442, 440.  
 Weierstrass, K., 45.  
 Weight of observations, 549.  
 Weighted observations, 550.  
 — error, 550.  
 Whewell, 83.  
 White, 416.  
 Whitworth, 273.  
 Wilhelmy, L., 30, 63, 196, 219, 224.  
 Williams, W., 481.  
 Williamson, B., 19, 290, 571.  
 Winkelmann, A., 59, 61.  
 Wogrinz, J., 440.  
 Woodhouse, W. B., 472.  
 Work diagrams, 237.  
 — — Clapeyron's, 239.
- X-axis, 83.  
 Y-axis, 83.  
 Young, 5.  
 — S., 39.
- Zero, 11.  
 — Absolute, 12.  
 — Relative, 12.

## DOVER BOOKS ON SCIENCE

**Analysis and Design of Experiments** by H. B. Mann. Dover Series in Mathematics and Physics. In preparation. Tentatively—\$2.95

**Anschauliche Geometrie** by D. Hilbert and S. Cohn-Vossen. "... clearly written and beautifully illustrated ... will be thoroughly enjoyed by geometrician and analyst alike."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Monthly." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Text in German. English translation of table of contents. German-English glossary-index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . x + 314 pages. 330 illustrations. (Originally published at \$10.00). \$3.95

**Applied Elasticity** by John Prescott. Treated from the viewpoint of the engineer are stress and strain, Hooke's law, theorem of three moments for uniform beams, thin rods under tension or thrust, Saint Venant's theory, elastic bodies in contact, etc. "... important contribution ... old material presented in new and refreshing form ... many original investigations."—"Nature." 3 appendices. Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . vi + 666 pages. (Originally published at \$9.50). \$3.95

**Atomic Spectra and Atomic Structure** by Gerhard Herzberg. Translated with the cooperation of the author by J. W. T. Spinks. Second revised edition. "... the vector model and the quantum mechanical view are skillfully blended together into a unified description of atomic processes ... deserves to become popular and widely read."—"Nature." Bibliography. Index.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 8\frac{3}{4}$ . xv + 257 pages. 80 illustrations. 21 tables. (Originally published at \$5.70). \$3.95

**Aufgaben und Lehrsätze aus der Analysis** by G. Pólya and G. Szegő. "There are but few books which could be compared with this one as to richness and charm of material and amount of suggestions which an attentive reader is able to get out of it."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Two volume set. Text in German. English translation of table of contents. German-English glossary-index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . Volume I: xxvi + 342 pages. Volume II: xx + 412 pages. (Originally published at \$14.40 for both volumes).

Each Volume—\$3.95, The Set—\$7.90

**Bessel Functions, Eleven and Fifteen-Place Tables of Bessel Functions of the First Kind to All Significant Orders** by Enzo Cambi. The main tables give  $J_n(x)$  for  $x = 0$  (0.01) 10.5 and  $n = 0$  (1) 29 to 11 places. A supplementary table gives  $J_n(x)$  for  $x = 0$  (0.001) 0.5 and  $n = 0$  (1) 11 to 15 places. "Should prove of invaluable reference as guide and hand book."—"Radio Electronic Engineering." Bibliography.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 10\frac{1}{4}$ . vi + 160 pages. 2 graphs. \$3.95

**Biometrical Genetics, The Study of Continuous Variation** by K. Mather. Based on the use of measurements, this work examines the pheno-type classes for which older methods of discontinuous variations are useless.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . x + 158 pages. 16 diagrams. \$3.50

**A Concise History of Mathematics** by Dirk J. Struik. Emphasizes ideas and continuity of mathematics rather than anecdotal aspect from Oriental beginnings through 19th century. "... gives a most comprehensive picture of this science that is 'a vast adventure in ideas,' reflecting 'some of the noblest thoughts of countless generations.'"—"American Scientist." Two volume set. Dover Series in Mathematics and Physics. Bibliography. Index.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{3}{4}$ . Volume I: xviii + 123 pages. Volume II: vi + 175 pages. 47 illustrations. The Set—\$3.00

**Cosmic Radiation**. Edited by W. Heisenberg. Translated from the German by T. H. Johnson. 15 articles on recent accomplishments in the field written by eminent German physicists during World War II on cascade theory, radioactive decay of the meson, theory of explosion-like showers, nuclear disruptions, etc. "... undoubtedly the best book on cosmic rays which is available."—"Chemical and Engineering News." Material well integrated with numerous cross references and consistent notation. Bibliography. Index.  $6 \times 9$ . xvi + 192 pages. 36 illustrations. 13 tables. \$3.95



## DOVER BOOKS ON SCIENCE

**Cours d'Analyse Infinitésimale** by Ch. J. de la Vallée Poussin. Eighth revised edition. "The handling throughout is clear, elegant and concise; the various topics are illustrated by numerous carefully chosen examples selected with rare pedagogic skill to develop a real understanding of the text."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Two volume set. Text in French.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . Volume I: xxi + 524 pages. Volume II: xii + 460 pages. Each Volume—\$4.50, The Set—\$8.75

**Design of Crystal Vibrating Systems** by William J. Fry, John M. Taylor and Bertha W. Hennis. Second revised edition. Procedures for design of projectors involving a general set of curves based on fundamental piezoelectric relations. "Contains much valuable material released for the first time for general publication."—"Electronic Engineering." 4 appendices.  $6\frac{1}{8} \times 9\frac{1}{4}$ . viii + 182 pages. 126 graphs. \$3.50

**Einführung in die Algebraische Geometrie** by B. L. van der Waerden. "Every mathematician who is interested in either algebra or geometry will find here a clear, systematic exposition of an important new mathematical development."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Text in German.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . ix + 247 pages. 15 illustrations. (Originally published at \$7.80). \$3.95

**Einleitung in die Mengenlehre** by Adolf Fraenkel. Third revised edition. "The treatise by Fraenkel on the theory of aggregates is now one of the finest."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Text in German. Bibliography. Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . xiii + 424 pages. 13 figures. \$4.00

**Elementary Mathematics from an Advanced Standpoint** by Felix Klein. Volume I: Arithmetic, Algebra, Analysis. Translated from the third German edition by E. R. Hedrick and C. A. Noble. "A very attractive introduction into some of the most modern developments of the theory of groups of finite order, with emphasis on its applications."—"American Mathematical Monthly." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . xiv + 274 pages. 125 illustrations. \$3.75

**Elementary Mathematics from an Advanced Standpoint** by Felix Klein. Volume II: Geometry. Translated from the third German edition by E. R. Hedrick and C. A. Noble. "Required reading for anyone planning to teach high school geometry and . . . interesting and valuable to the experienced teacher."—"School Science and Mathematics." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . ix + 214 pages. 141 illustrations. \$2.95

**Electromagnetic Theory** by Oliver Heaviside. Includes a short biography and description of Heaviside's contributions by Dr. Ernst Weber. Three volumes bound as one. In preparation. Tentatively—\$6.00

**The Evolution of Scientific Thought from Newton to Einstein** by A. d'Abro. Treatment covers pre-relativity physics, special theory of relativity, general theory of relativity and methodology of science. ". . . covers many more topics than any other popular book in English of which I know, and there are many admirable features in the presentation. . . ."—"Physical Review." 4 appendices.  $5\frac{3}{8} \times 8$ . 544 pages. \$3.95

**Foundations of Nuclear Physics**. Compiled by Robert T. Beyer. Facsimile reproductions with text in the original language of French, German or English of the 13 most important papers in atomic research by Chadwick, Cockcroft, Yukawa, Fermi, etc. 122 page bibliography with over 5,000 classified entries.  $6\frac{1}{8} \times 9\frac{1}{4}$ . x + 272 pages. Illustrated. \$2.95

**Gas Dynamics Tables for Air** by Howard W. Emmons. With graphical presentation of tabulated functions. "The precision of the computations makes the tables adequate for many special uses."—"Review of Scientific Instruments."  $6\frac{1}{8} \times 9\frac{1}{4}$ . Semi-stiff binding. 46 pages. 3 illustrations. 4 tables. 10 graphs. \$1.75

**Grundzüge der Theoretischen Logik** by D. Hilbert and W. Ackerman. Second revised edition. ". . . gives an account of the symbolic treatment of certain topics of logic which have been particularly susceptible to that form of treatment. . . . The revision has increased the recognized value of this book as a reference work."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Text in German. Bibliography. Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . xi + 133 pages. (Originally published at \$4.50). \$3.00



## DOVER BOOKS ON SCIENCE

**Higher Mathematics for Students of Chemistry and Physics** by J. W. Mellor. Fourth revised edition. "... recognized as filling a place of its own in our mathematical literature. . . . The theoretical chemist of the rising generation must know his higher mathematics, and we are convinced that many will bless Dr. Mellor for providing them with an eminently readable and thoroughly practical treatise."—"Nature." 2 appendices. Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . xxix + 641 pages. 189 figures. 18 tables. (Originally published at \$7.00). **\$4.50**

**Hydrodynamics** by Sir Horace Lamb. Sixth revised edition. "Standard work . . . important theories (of the dynamics of liquids and gases), which underlie many present-day practical applications, are dealt with thoroughly and with mathematical rigour."—"Engineering Societies Library." Index.  $6 \times 9$ . xviii + 738 pages. 83 illustrations. (Originally published at \$13.75). **\$5.95**

**Hydrology**. Edited by Oscar E. Meinzer. Chapters by 24 experts on precipitation, glaciers, soil moisture, runoff, droughts, hydrology of limestone and lava-rock terranes, etc. "... most up-to-date and most complete treatment of the subject. It should be on the bookshelves of all those who are concerned with any of the numerous branches of hydrology."—"Bulletin of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists." Physics of the Earth Series. Bibliography. Index.  $6\frac{1}{4} \times 9\frac{1}{4}$ . xi + 712 pages. 165 illustrations. 23 tables. (Originally published at \$8.00). **\$4.95**

**Introduction to the Differential Equations of Physics** by L. Hopf. Translated by Walter Nef. "There is a surprising amount of valuable material packed into this small book. About one third of the material covers ordinary partial differential equations, the balance of the treatment considers partial differential equations."—"School Science and Mathematics." Dover Series in Mathematics and Physics. Index.  $4\frac{1}{4} \times 6\frac{3}{8}$ . vi + 154 pages. 48 illustrations. **\$1.95**

**An Introduction to the Numerical and Graphical Methods of Mathematics** by H. von Sanden. In preparation. Tentatively—**\$2.25**

**Introduction to the Theory of Fourier's Series and Integrals** by H. S. Carslaw. Third revised edition. The convergence of infinite series and integrals, the Riemann-Lebesgue theorem and its consequences, Parseval's theorem, Dirichlet's integrals, Gibbs phenomenon, Fourier's integrals, etc. "... needs little introduction . . . much new material has been introduced (in the present edition) . . . clearly and attractively written."—"Nature." 2 appendices. Index.  $5\frac{3}{8} \times 8$ . xiii + 368 pages. 39 illustrations. **\$3.95**

**Mathematical Foundations of Statistical Mechanics** by A. I. Khinchin. Translated by G. Gamow. The most rigorous mathematical discussion available with sections on geometry and kinematics of the phase rule, interpretation of physical quantities in statistical mechanics, metric indecomposability of reduced manifolds, etc. Dover Series in Mathematics and Physics. Appendix. Notations. Index.  $5 \times 7\frac{1}{8}$ . viii + 179 pages. **\$2.95**

**Mathematische Grundlagen der Quantenmechanik** by Johann von Neumann. "... probably the most complete and rigorous discussion of the subject . . . a thorough and logical development and discussion of the mathematical axioms on which quantum mechanics is founded."—"American Mathematical Monthly." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Text in German. German-English glossary. Index.  $6 \times 9$ . vi + 266 pages. 4 illustrations. (Originally published at \$7.85). **\$3.95**

**Die Mathematischen Hilfsmittel des Physikers** by Erwin Madelung. Third revised edition. "Standard . . . collection of mathematical definitions and formulas and of laws and equations used in theoretical and applied physics . . . written in comparatively simple German."—"Electronic Industries." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Text in German. German-English glossary. Bibliography. Index.  $6 \times 9$ . xvi + 384 pages. 25 illustrations. (Originally published at \$12.00). **\$3.95**

**Matter and Light, The New Physics** by Louis de Broglie. Translated by W. H. Johnston. 21 essays on present day physics, matter and electricity, light and radiation, wave mechanics and the philosophical implications of scientific achievement. "... ponders the present position of physics and tries, in this stimulating and lucidly written book, to see its future development."—"Review of Scientific Instruments."  $4\frac{1}{8} \times 7\frac{1}{4}$ . iv + 300 pages. (Originally published at \$3.50). **\$2.75**

## DOVER BOOKS ON SCIENCE

**Mengenlehre** by F. Hausdorff. Third revised edition. "We wish to state without qualification that this is an indispensable book for all those interested in the theory of aggregates and the allied branches of real variable theory and analysis situs."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Text in German. Bibliography. Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . v + 307 pages. 12 illustrations. (Originally published at \$10.00). \$3.95

**Micro-Waves and Wave Guides** by H. M. Barlow. Up-to-date exposition which describes both the accomplishments and future possibilities in this increasingly important field. Glossary of symbols used. Bibliography. Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . x + 122 pages. 70 illustrations. \$1.95

**The Nature of Physical Theory** by P. W. Bridgman. Topics covered include thought, language, logic, mathematics, relativity, wave mechanics, etc. "It can easily be read in about three hours, but it will then demand to be reread, parts of it several times over."—"Review of Scientific Instruments." Index.  $5\frac{3}{8} \times 8$ . xi + 138 pages. \$1.98

**Ordinary Differential Equations** by E. L. Ince. Fourth revised edition. "Notable addition to the mathematical literature in English. As an exposition of the present state of the theory of ordinary differential equations the book deserves the highest praise."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." 4 appendices. Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 9$ . viii + 558 pages. 18 illustrations. (Originally published at \$12.00). \$4.95

**Partial Differential Equations of Mathematical Physics** by H. Bateman. First American edition with corrections. "The book must be in the hands of everyone who is interested in the boundary value problems of mathematical physics."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Appendix. Index.  $6 \times 9$ . xxii + 522 pages. 29 illustrations. (Originally published at \$10.00). \$4.95

**The Phase Rule and Its Applications** by Alexander Findlay. Eighth revised edition. "It has established itself as the standard work on the subject and still remains the best introduction to the phase rule and its application. . . . The book is assured of a continued and well-deserved popularity."—"Nature." Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . xxxi + 313 pages. 163 illustrations. \$3.95

**The Physical Principles of the Quantum Theory** by Werner Heisenberg. In preparation. Tentatively—\$2.25

**Polar Molecules** by P. Debye. "This book not only brings together for the first time the accumulated information on electric dipoles, but also points out the gaps which still exist in theory and experiment."—"Nature." Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . iv + 172 pages. 33 illustrations. (Originally published at \$3.00). \$3.50

**Practical Analysis (Graphical and Numerical Methods)** by Fr. A. Willers. Translated by Robert T. Beyer. Section on calculating machines rewritten by Tracy W. Simpson to reflect current methods with American-made calculators. Topics treated include numerical calculation, interpolation, approximate integration and differentiation, analysis of empirical functions, etc. ". . . is to be recommended as a convenient reference book."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Index.  $6\frac{1}{8} \times 9\frac{1}{4}$ . x + 422 pages. 132 illustrations. \$6.00

**Spherical Harmonics, An Elementary Treatise on Harmonic Functions with Applications** by T. M. MacRobert. Second revised edition. "The book should appeal strongly to the applied mathematician and to the mathematical physicist. They will find here a scholarly treatment of the type of problems arising in a great many branches of theoretical physics and the tools whereby such problems may be attacked."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . vi + 372 pages. \$4.50

**Tables of Functions with Formulae and Curves (Funktionentafeln)** by Eugene Jahnke and Fritz Emde. Fourth revised edition containing 400 corrections of errors and a supplementary bibliography of 43 titles. ". . . purchasers of the volume under review (new fourth edition), will have a greatly improved edition of an extraordinarily useful work."—R. C. Archibald in "Mathematical Tables." Text in English and German. Bibliography. Index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . xvi + 382 pages. 212 illustrations. (Originally published at \$6.00). \$4.95

## DOVER BOOKS ON SCIENCE

**Les Tenseurs en Mécanique et en Élasticité** by Léon Brillouin. "... first comprehensive treatise in any language on which the main emphasis is laid on the tensorial formulation of the classical (non-relativistic) laws of physics, in particular those of mechanics and elasticity."—"Review of Scientific Instruments." Text in French. Index. 6 x 9. xx + 364 pages. 114 figures. \$3.95

**Terrestrial Magnetism and Electricity.** Edited by J. A. Fleming. Chapters by 14 leading geophysicists containing 104 detailed sections on cosmic radiation, ozone, ionosphere, radioactivity, geophysical prospecting, etc. "An important and authoritative production . . . making available to physicists and applied mathematicians, to geologists, engineers and others, the present state and fascinating and difficult problems of this branch of earth science."—"Proceedings, Physical Society of London." Physics of the Earth Series. Bibliography with 1523 entries. Index. 6½ x 9¼. xii + 794 pages. 296 illustrations. (Originally published at \$8.00). \$4.95

**Theorie der Differentialgleichungen** by Ludwig Bieberbach. Third revised edition. "While the book is elementary in character, its spirit is scholarly, and the book is well worth while to the student who has not gone deeply into the subject of differential equations."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Text in German. Index. 5½ x 8½. xvii + 399 pages. 22 illustrations. (Originally published at \$10.00). \$3.95

**Die Theorie der Gruppen von Endlicher Ordnung** by Andreas Speiser. Third revised edition. "A very attractive introduction into some of the most modern developments of the theory of groups of finite order, with emphasis on its applications."—"American Mathematical Monthly." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Text in German. Index. 5½ x 8½. x + 262 pages. 41 illustrations. (Originally published at \$9.00). \$3.95

**Theory of Functions** by Konrad Knopp. Part I: Elements of the General Theory of Analytic Functions. Translated from the fifth German edition by Frederick Bagemihl. "There is little doubt but that this is the best monograph on functions of a complex variable yet written."—"American Mathematical Monthly." Bibliography. Index. 4¼ x 6½. xii + 146 pages. 4 illustrations. \$1.50

**Theory of Functions** by Konrad Knopp. Part II: Applications and Further Development of the General Theory. Translated from the fourth German edition by Frederick Bagemihl. Bibliography. Index. 4¼ x 6½. x + 150 pages. 8 illustrations. \$1.50

**Problem Book in the Theory of Functions** by Konrad Knopp. Volume I: Problems in the Elementary Theory of Functions. Translated by Lipman Bers. "The difficult task of selecting from the immense material of the modern theory of functions the problems just within the reach of the beginner is here masterfully accomplished."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Dover Series in Mathematics and Physics. 4¼ x 6¾. viii + 126 pages. \$1.85

**Problem Book in the Theory of Functions** by Konrad Knopp. Volume II. Translated by Lipman Bers. Dover Series in Mathematics and Physics. In preparation. Tentatively—\$1.85

**Theory of Sets** by E. Kamke. Translated by Frederick Bagemihl. Dover Series in Mathematics and Physics. In preparation. Tentatively—\$2.25

**Theorie und Anwendung der Laplace-Transformation** by Gustav Doetsch. Second revised edition. "... a well written treatise which provides a good introduction to the field. The emphasis on the physical applications will make the book particularly useful to workers on boundary value problems."—"Zentralblatt f. Mathematik." Yellow (Grundlehren) Series. Text in German. German-English glossary. Bibliography. Index. 6 x 9. xiv + 439 pages. 18 illustrations. Tables of Laplace transformations. (Originally published at \$14.50). \$3.95

**The Theory of Sound** by Lord Rayleigh. With an Historical Introduction by Robert Bruce Lindsay. Second revised edition. "... makes this outstanding treatise available again, and furthermore, at a popular price. . . . This edition of Lord Rayleigh's classic work is made even more valuable than its predecessor by an excellent historical introduction by Robert Bruce Lindsay."—"Review of Scientific Instruments." Appendix. Index. 5½ x 8½. Volume I: xlii + 408 pages. Volume II: xvi + 504 pages. (Originally published in two volumes at \$8.00). Unabridged One Volume Edition—\$5.95

## DOVER BOOKS ON SCIENCE

**Time, Knowledge, and the Nebulae** by Martin Johnson. Foreword by Professor E. A. Milne. "... succinct and lucid summary of the new cosmology involved in Professor Milne's theory of relativity, of its physical background and of its possible philosophical significance."—"London Times." Bibliography.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . iii + 189 pages. **\$2.75**

**A Treatise on the Analytical Dynamics of Particles and Rigid Bodies** by E. T. Whittaker. Fourth revised edition. "... to a greater extent than his predecessors Whittaker has availed himself of the great machinery of modern mathematics . . . exhibits great mathematical power and attainments . . . arranged for reference use."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Index.  $6 \times 9$ . xiv + 456 pages. (Originally published at \$6.00). **\$4.50**

**A Treatise on the Mathematical Theory of Elasticity** by A. E. H. Love. Fourth revised edition. "... has been for years the standard treatise on elasticity . . . presents a picture of this extensive field in all its aspects in a single volume . . . valuable new contributions to the theory by the author."—"American Mathematical Monthly." Index.  $6 \times 9$ . xxi + 643 pages. 76 illustrations. (Originally published at \$10.50). **\$5.95**

**Treatise on Thermodynamics** by Max Planck. Translated with the author's sanction by Alexander Ogg. Third revised edition (translated from the seventh German edition). Topics discussed are applications of the first fundamental principle of thermodynamics to homogeneous and non-homogeneous systems, proof and general deductions of the second fundamental principle, Nernst's theorem, etc. "... the important part played by thermodynamics in modern physics and especially in chemistry, is a sure guarantee that an English translation of Professor Planck's book will receive a warm welcome."—"Nature." Index.  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{4}$ . xxxiii + 297 pages. 5 illustrations. (Originally published at \$4.80). **\$3.50**

**Vorlesungen über Differentialgeometrie** by Wilhelm Blaschke. Volume I: **Elementare Differentialgeometrie**. Third revised edition. "... the sequences of logical steps are clear and the text is always interesting."—"Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society." Yellow (Grund-lehren) Series. Text in German. English translation of table of contents. German-English glossary-index.  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ . xiv + 322 pages. 35 figures. (Originally published at \$9.00). **\$3.95**